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# THE *Compleat Fisher,* Or the True Art of Angling :

Being a Clear and Speedy way of  
Taking all Sorts of Fresh-  
Water Fish with the Worm,  
Fly, Paste, and other Baits,  
in their proper Seasons ;  
how to know the Haunts of Fish,  
and Angle for them in all Waters  
and Weathers, at the Top, Middle  
and Bottom, Baiting of the Ground,  
and Night-Baits, Oyls, and Oint-  
ments, Baits Natural and Artificial ;  
The several ways of Angling ;  
To make Oyl of Alper, and many  
rare Secrets never before made  
publick ; containing the whole Bo-  
dy of Angling, and Mystery of a  
Compleat Angler.

To Fish in Hackney River, the best  
Stands, and how to make the best  
Tackling to Fish there.

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By J. S. *A Brother of the Angle.*  
The Third Edition Enlarged

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**T**HE *Experienc'd Fowler:*  
Containing, I, The True  
Art of taking Water and Land  
Fowl, with divers kinds of Nets,  
Lime-Twigs, Lime-Bushes, and  
how to make the best Bird-Lime.  
II. Directions for Bat-Fowling,  
Lowbelling, Tramelling, and driv-  
ing Fowl, how to find their  
Haunts, and take them with  
Springes, Snares, &c. III. An  
exact Method for using the Fowl-  
ing-Piece at a true level, to  
shoot at the Water, Ground,  
Bush, or Flyng. IV. How to  
make Shot, proportion the  
Charge, and know good Pow-  
der; with the proper use of  
the Stalking-Horse, Bush, Hedge,  
and how to manage them. V.  
Of Singing-Birds, Their Dis-  
eases and Cure. VI. How to di-  
stinguishe all sorts of Poulterer's  
Ware, whether Old or Young,  
Fresh or Stale, full of Eggs or not.  
Also to well order, and speedily  
Fat Tame and Wild Fowl. VII.  
To which is added Directions for  
destroying all manner of Vermin.



**T**Hough you see this Book but small, yet think not the matter is so it contains, for upon my Word, Brother Angler, you will find in it more than you are aware of, or could reasonably expect.

It is stored with such  
A 3 variety.

## To the Lovers

variety of choice Instructions, that I am bold to say, there are none of what Volume soever, that in a direct and easie Method, can shew you any thing like it. It comprehends whatever they pretend to, and many Secrets that never before appeared in Print; nor is any thing omitted, that I could upon mature deliberation, reasonably conceive might tend to Pleasure and Profit: by well observing the Rules I have laid down, you need not be endowed with so large a stock of Patience, as some tell you an Angler ought to be possessed withal, but soon be furnished.

## of Angling.

furnished with a Dish of Fish to your Mind: you may change your Recreation, and not make this irksome to you, by a tedious poring on the Banks, as many do, and for all that, return fretting at their slender Success.

But by the way let me tell you, Angling of all other Recreations, is the most Innocent, Contemplative, and least Chargeable, it affords Advantage without cost, and Pleasure without Toil or Sweating, it much contributes to a healthful Constitution of Body, by the Pleasant Airs that breathe from wholesome Wa-

To the Lovers, &c.

ters, to refresh and enliven Nature ; and indeed has been held in high Esteem, by Wise Men of all Ages ; and therefore I recommend it to you, as the best wind-er-off of your leisure Hours, wishing you Moderation in it, and Good Success. Vale.

Instructions

Instructions for rightly preparing Angling Tackle, as Rods, Lines, Hooks, Floats, Plummetts, and other matters required to accomplish the Angler, &c.

IF we consider Recreations aright, they are intended to refresh the Mind, and unbend our Cares after Toil, Labour or Study, and therefore ought not to be pursued with too much fatigue, lest they appear more like a business, than pleasure, and so in the end become pall'd and tiresome; but when leisure Hours will admit, they are very conveni-

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ent to sweeten the Cares of Life. Among these, Angling is held by all the Ingenious, the most diverting for those that are Contemplative, and though it require much Ingenuity, yet is it performed with little Labour; yet as in all other curious Matters, Rules are necessary to be observed in it, and to that end I shall, as Experience, the best Master teaches, proceed Gradually, to lay down such, as perhaps the greatest part of Mankind are Ignorant of, and therefore according to the Method I have chosen, it will be necessary first to speak of Tackle, without the Knowledge of which, the Angler must be like one that undertakes Business, and wants Tools to accomplish it.

As for your Tops, Hasle or Yew Switches, gathered about the middle of December when most

most free from Sap, are accounted very good, though the two following, or preceeding Months, may reasonably serve, run them over a gentle heat, to make them tough; let the Stocks and Tops be taper, smooth and strait, the pieces of each Rod suitable in an exact symmetry, free from knots, or else they will be deficient in Casting, and never Strike well, nor be truly pliable, but at a knot be apt to break and spoil your Sport: To keep them in good order, bind them close to a strait Pole, and so let them continue long, that they may not warp, fasten a Loop of Silk or Horse-hair, at the end of it, with Shoemakers Thread, that the Line may have play on it, and though many use Silk Lines, yet I prefer the Horse-hair as the best; and in twisting or braiding, observe an exact

evenness, for one Hair being shorter then the rest in a Link, the whole stress will lye on that, and in breaking, renders the rest much the weaker, and often a good Fish is lost for want of this observance: make your knots sure, that they slip not; as for the colour of your Hair, it being free from Nits or Goutiness, which some call Botches, the pale, waterish colour is the best to deceive in a Clear Stream; but in Wheyish or Muddy Water, you may chuse indifferently a Line, for the Ground Angle need not be so strong as that you intend for your Rod at the Artificial Fly, abating in the latter a Hair from top to bottom, in every Link from one or two, to six or eight, or more.

As for the Hook, it must be long in the Shank, and of a compass somewhat inclining to roundness,

roundness, for if the Shank be strait, the Point will stand outward, fasten the Hair on the inside of the Shank, to preserve it from fretting, whether you Angle at top or bottom; proportion your Hook for strength and compass, to the number of hairs you Angle with next it, neither use great Hooks to small Baits, nor great Baits to little ones; *Barbel* and *Chub* must have large Hooks, *Carp*s, *Eels*, *Tench*, *Pearch*, *Breams*, those of a much lesser size, and Experience teaches, *Trouts*, in clear Water, *Grayling*, *Smelts*, *Roaches*, *Salmon-Smelts*, *Dace*, *Ruff*, and *Gudgeons* are soonest taken with small Hooks, though many use great ones for the *Trout*, especially in Muddy Water, yet the *Salmon* must be Angled for with a Hook, according to his strength; Hooks for *Dubflies* should be generally small, and

and so for Cod-baits, but larger for Worms, yet such as some use for the latter, do not generally take in Clear Water: When you whip your Hook, which is stiled Arming, do it with Silk lightly rubbed with Shoemakers Wax, twisting it round on the lower part of the Line, almost to the bent of the Hook on the inside, having first smoothed the Shank of the Hook with a Whetstone; and for Worms let it be red coloured Silk, but for Cod-bait, Pastes, &c. white.

Floats should be of Cork for River Fishing, but for Ponds, Meers, and other standing Waters, Quill and Pens will do very well, and in very slow Rivers, especially when you are to Angle near the Top with tender Baits or Pastes; as for your Cork, let it be the finest, free from holes or flaws, bore it through with a small hot Iron, thrust

thrust in a quill sizeable, shapt, with a Knife to the likeness of a Pyramid, Egg, or Pear, a proportionable bigness, and with a Pumice-stone finely smooth it; run your Line through the Quill, and wedge it in with the uppermost hard part of the Quill, the smaller end of the Cork being towards the Hook, and the bigger towards the Rod, let the Cork be so poised with Lead on the Line, that the Quill standing directly upright, the least Bite or Nibble may sink the Cork.

To Lead your Line, do it with a Shot cloven, and then closed exactly on it; put not above two of these on any Line, and that an Inch and a half, or two Inches distance from each other, and the lowermost plumb, seven or eight Inches from the Hook, but for a running Line, either

either in Clear or Muddy Water, nine or ten Inches, and if you in a River find a Sandy bottom, it being full of Wood, with few Stones, shape your Lead a Diamond-fashion, or to that of a Barley Corn or Oval, bring the ends very close and smooth to the Line, yet make it black, for the brightness will scare the Fish.

It is very necessary to have a landing Net and Hook, or you may lose many a large Fish, by breaking line or hold, before you can Land him. The Net you may fasten to the end of a long manageable Pole: As for the Hook it must be a large one with a Screw, to screw into a Socket at the end of a Pole, and when your Fish is entangled, clap it into the mouth of it, and draw it to Land; but this latter is cheifly for *Barbel*, *Salmon*, and other strong Fish.

As

As for your Pannier, let it be of light Osier twigs, neatly Woven and Worked up, and to be the more compleatly prepared on all occasions; have in a readiness divers sorts of Hooks, Lines, Links ready twisted, Hair and Silk of several colours, small strong Thread, Lead Plummets, Shoemakers Wax, and Floats of divers sizes, Line-cases, Whet-stone, Pen-knife, Worm bags, Boxes, Baits, Scissars. And thus having pretty well accoutred my Angler with Tackle, it will next be necessary to know what Baits he must use, for on it mainly depends success or frustration.

*Baits*

*Baits bred on Trees, Herbs, Plants, Worms, their season, and what Fish take them, when and how, &c.*

**B**aits for the sundry kinds of Fish are numerous, and many of them must be considered in their proper Season, or they are of no value; as for Earth-worms, they are accounted a general Bait, they and Gentles are always in Season, Earth-Bobs only from Martinmas, till the latter end of April, Couturd Bobs from thence till Michaelmas, Oak-worms, Worms bred of Trees, Plants and Herbs, Palmers, or Wool-beds, Flies, Catterpillars, Cod-baits, &c. all the Summer; and here it is requisite to note, that when one sort

sort of Baits comes in Season, the other are not useles. If you are to Angle in Clear Water at the Ground, it will be necessary to ha ve with you Cod-baits, Worins, Gentles and Bobs, to try which will best take, but in Muddy Water for *Trouts*, with the running Line; you are required for better Sport, to have Tag-tails, Gilt-tails, Brandlings, Meadow worms, some scowred in Moss and Water, others directed with a Riddle, and some again with heavy Earth; for almost at the same time they will take them, some one way done, and some another, as Experience has often demonstrated.

But to come nearer, and shew you what your Baits are, how shaped, and to be chosen.

1. The Garden-worm, Lob-worm, or Treachet and Dew-worm,

worm, are one and the same, though in divers places their names thus alter, and this Worm, one of the greatest size, is an Excellent Bait for *Chevin*, *Salmon*, *Barbel* or *Eel*, though the smaller of the same kind, are not much affected with them: That with a broad Tail, and red Head, and streak down the Back is the best, they are found in the latter end of the Summer in the Evening, in Gardens, Church-yards, and may be driven out of the Earth, with the Juice of Walnut-tree Leaves, and Water poured on their holes.

2. Marsh or Meadow-worms are found in Marshy ground, or in Banks of Rivers in Fertil Mould, being somewhat blewish, and being well scoured it will be tough and lively, and is a very good Bait, especially in *March*, *April* and *September*, for *Pearch*,

Pearch, Flounder, Bream, Smelt, Gudgeon, Salmon, Trout, Grayling, though many, and not without Success, use from Candlemas to Michaelmas, and in Moss and Water it may be kept fifteen days before use.

3. Brandlings, Red worms, and Gilt-tails, are found in old Dunghills, rotten Earth, Cow-dung, Hogs-dung, or Tanners Bark when it is used and cast by. The Brandling and Gilt-tail, are especially good for taking Pearch, Tench, Bream, Salmon, Gudgeons, Smelts, they are taken by Trout and Grayling in Muddy or Clear Water, and the Red-worms well scoured, are taken by Tench, Pearch and Bream, and best in Muddy Water.

4. The Worm called Tag-tail, is of a flesh colour, having at his Tail a yellow Tag near half an Inch long, found in

in Meadows after a shower of Rain, or in Chalky ground in *March* and *April*, if the Weather be temperate; this is held an extraordinary good Bait for a *Trout* in cloudy Weather, and a little scouring will serve it.

5. The Palmer-fly, Palmer-worm, Wool-bed and Cankers, are accounted one and the same, being bred on Herbs, Trees, and Plants, not being properly a Catterpillar, yet the shape of one, being in the outward parts Rough and Woolly, being excellent Baits for the *Chub*, *Grayling*, *Trout*, *Dace*, or *Roach*. The Palmer-fly and May-fly are held the Foundation of Fly-Angling, and have usually good Success.

6. The Oak-worm, Caterpillar, Cabbage-worm, Crabtree-worm, or Jack, Colewort-worm, or Grub, may be long kept with the Leaves of those Trees

or Plants, that breed them, in Boxes with holes for Air, or in Withey Bark. They take *Chub*, *Roach*, *Dace*, and *Trout*, the Oak-worm being preferable to any bred on Trees or Plants, being the best taken on the top of the Water, though you may go as deep as you will with them; to get these, search the Colewort or Cabbage Leaves, beat the Oak, Crabtree, or Haw-thorn; some of them are hard and tough, others smooth and soft, some horned-tailed, others have them on their Heads, some smooth, others hairy.

7. Bobs, of these there are two sorts, they are found in Sandy or Mellow ground, especially after Plowing: The one is one is called the Earth Bob, White Grub, or White Bait, being much bigger than a Gentle, having a Red Head, the

the Body soft, and full of white Guts, the other is lesser, and somewhat bleuish, found many times in digging on Heaths; they are excellent Baits till after Mid-April to the first of November, to take *Tench*, *Bream*, *Trout*, *Chub*, *Roach*, *Smelt*, *Salmon*, *Dace* and *Carp*, they must be kept in an Earthen Vessel, with the Earth you find them in, covered very close to keep out the Cold and Wind, some boil them about two minutes in Milk before they use them, which makes them tougher and whiter, others dip them in Honey, or Gum-Ivy for *Carp*, *Bream*, and both ways prove Successful.

8. Gentles or Maggots, may be kept with Flesh, and scoured well with Wheat-Bran, they are easie to be had, or bred by Putrefaction. These are sometimes added to a Worm on the Hook, sometimes to a Dub-  
fly,

fly, and so take *Salmon-Smelts*, but oftner used by themselves two or three on a Hook; the day before you Angle, put them into a Box with *Gum-Ivy*, and it will prove successful to your sport; they are good Baits for *Tench*, *Barbel*, *Bream*, *Bleak*, *Gudgeon*, *Trout*, *Dace*, *Chub*, *Carp*.

9. *Flag-worms*, or *Dock-worms* are the same, found among *Flags*, in old Pits or Ponds, viz. The small Fibres of the *Flag-roots*, by opening little husks, it is Pale, Yellow, or White, longer and slenderer than a *Gentle*, and these may be kept in *Bran*, and are good Baits for *Bream*, *Tench*, *Roach*, *Carp*, *Dace*, *Bleak* and *Pearch*: when you Fish with it for the *Grayling*, use the smallest Line, and the *Float*, and Fish nine or ten Inches from the ground.

10. *The Bark-worm*, or *Ash-Grub*,

Grub, are all one, being very full and white, bent round from the Tail to the Head, the Head being red, and the parts very tender, resembling a young Dorr or Humble-Bee, and may be used all the Year, but particularly from *Michaelmas* to the middle of *May or June*, and except the Fly and Cod-bait, is the best for *Grayling*, *Dace*, *Roach* and *Chub*, it is found best under the Bark of an Oak, Ash, Elder, or Beech; especially when fell'd, and they have lain about a Year, or in the hollow of these Trees when standing, where doated or rotten; it is a very tender Bait, and best on a brittled Hook, by running the Hook in at the Head and up the Belly, till it stays on the bristle and no part of the Hooks point appears cut of it; they are kept well in Wheat-Bran, and take the *Grayling* with the smaller Line

Line: Angle with the Float, keeping the Bait seven or eight Inches from the bottom; but if you Fish with it for *Roach*, *Chub*, or *Dace*, use Indifferent Tackle.

11. There is a Bob found under a Cow-turd, called the Cow-turd Bob, from the beginning of May to Michaelmas; some call it a Clap Bait, this is like a Gentle, but bigger; you may keep it sometimes in Moss, but the best is to keep it in Earth, dug up under the place where you find it; it is a very good Bait for *Trout*; if you Angle with it on a bristled Hook, on the top of the Water, and in the Water it is taken by *Chub*, *Carp*, *Bream*, *Tench*, *Dace* and *Roach*.

12. The Cod-bait, Cad-bait, Cadisworm, or Caseworm, are one and the same Bait, though of three sorts. The one is found under Stones that lie loose,

B 2 and

and hollow in small Brooks, shallow Rivers, or very fine Gravel, in a case or Husk, and when fit for purpose, they are yellow; they are bigger than a Gentle, having a Black or Blewish Head; another sort is found in Pits, Ponds, slow-running Rivers, Ditches, in Cases or Husks of Rushes, Water-weeds, Straw, &c. and are by some called Ruff-coats, or Straw-worms; these are accounted Principal Baits for Bleak, Salmon-Smelts, Tench, Bream, Chub, Trout, Grayling, Dace. The next is a green sort, found in Pits, Ponds or Ditches, in March, coming before the yellow ones, for they are not in season till the end of April, and in July are out of season; the third sort is proper in August, being smaller than the other. These must be kept tender in Woollen bags, when you carry them for use,

but

but to keep them long alive, put in a green Withey Bark, taken off and hollowed like a Trunk, lay it in the Dew a nights to moisten it.

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*Natural Flies for Baits,  
their Seasons, and where  
to be found, for what  
Fish they are proper, &c.*

1. **T**H E Ant-flies are found in their Hills, about the end of June, July, August, and most part of September, with the Earth you take with them, they may be kept in Glass Bottles; two or three of these fixed on the small Hook, are certain Baits for *Chub*, *Roach* and *Dace*, if you Angle under Water not above six Inches from the bottom.

2. The Brood of Humble-  
B 3 Bees,

Bees, Hornets and Wasps, are good Baits, dry them over a Fire, or in an Oven, so not being over done, they will last long, and sit handsomely on the Hook, to take *Chub*, *Eels*, *Bream*, *Flounders*, *Roach*, or *Dace*, some boil them, but then they will not keep long ; Hornets, Wasps, and Humble-Bees, may be used alive, when their Wings are a little grown, and their Legs short, especially for the *Chub*, as also the Black-Bee, breeding in Clay Walls.

3. The Fern-Fly or Fern-Bob, is found among Fern from *May-day* to the end of *August*, it is thick and short of Body, has two pair of Wings, the uppermost reddish and hard, which may be taken off, the last ten days of *May* the *Trout* will take it every dry, and the *Chub* refuses it no part of the Summer.

4. The

4. The Stone-fly and Green-drake. The first of these is found under hollow Stones at River sides: The Body of it is pretty thick, and almost as broad at the Tail as in the middle, it is of a curious brown colour, streaked a little with yellow on the Back, but much more on the Belly; he uses much the Water, and seldom flies though he has large Wings that double on his Back, he comes in about *April*, and continues till about the end of *June*, and is a very killing Ely of *Roach*, *Dace* and *Bleak*, and the Green-Drake has his Wings standing high like a Butter-fly, and his motion in flying the same, the Body is in some of a Paler, in others of a darker Yellow, ribbed with Rows of Green, long and slender, his Tail turns up to his Back, having three long whisks at the end of it, he

comes in about the middle of *May*, and continues till *Mid-summer*, and is found by Stoney Rivers, with this Bait for *Flounders*, *Dace*, *Bleak*, *Roach*, and *Pearch*.

5. The great Moth that has a considerable big Head with whitish Wings, is to be found in Summer Evenings in Gardens, on Trees and Plants ; it speedily takes *Chub* if you dibble with it.

6. The Hawthorn-fly is black, found frequently on Hawthorn-trees, when the Leaves are put out, the best use this can be put to, is to Dibb in a River for *Trout*.

7. The Ash-fly, Wood Cock-fly or Oak-fly is the same, under different names, and holds good from the beginning of *May* to the end of *August*, its of a brownish colour, and usually found in the Body of an Oak, or Ash, standing

standing with his head downwards towards the Root of the Tree, and is a very good Bait for a *Trout*. And to make speedy work, put it long ways on the Hook, and at the point a Cod-bait, and let them sink six Inches or a Foot into the Water, raise it gently, and having a short dibbing Line, you need not fear *Trouts* in clear Water, and instead of a Cod-bait, if you have it not, you may use an Oak-worm, or Green-Grub, you may dub this, or make it Artificially with Isabella, coloured Mohair, and bright brown Bears-hair, wrapped on yellow Silk. These being the Principal Flies, used in Angling, I now come to mixed Baits of another Nature.

*Miscellany of Baits very  
Taking, and much in  
use.*

1. *Salmon*. Spawn boiled, and fastned on the Hook, is a very good Bait for *Chub*, and in some Rivers for *Trout*, it being advantageous to the Angler, especially in Winter and Spring, if he keeps it salted; especially in places where *Salmon* used to Spawn, for thither the Fish gather to expect it.

2. *Grashoppers* the latter end of *June*, all *July* and *August*, if their Legs and outward Wings be taken off, especially for *Roach*, *Trout* and *Grayling*, and here you may put a slender plate of Lead on the shank of your Hook, slenderest at the bent, then draw your Grashopper over it, after put a lesser Grashopper

Grashopper, or Cod-bait at the point, and keep it moving, lifting up and sinking again, a *Chub* will also take the Bait freely, and so will a *Trout* if you dib with it.

3. The Water-Cricket, Water Louse or Creeper is but one, these take *Trout* in *March* and *April*, and sometimes in *May*, if you Angle at the River : It is to be Angled with in clear Water, within a Foot of the Bottom, some let it drag on the ground. This Creeper is bred in Stoney Rivers, and held to turn into a Stone-fly about the middle of *May*, that Fly not being anywhere seen before.

Lainery Pride, or Seaven, is a very good Bait for *Chub* and *Eels*, Night or Day ; this is no other than little live things like small *Eels*, no thicker than a Straw, and are to be found in

B 6 Sand

Sandy Muddy heaps, near to the Shoar in Rivers.

Snails, the Black and White are good Baits for *Chub*, very early in the Morning, *Trout* and *Eels* take them on Night-Hooks, but the Bellies of the Black may be slit, so that the white may appear, some dib for *Chub* with House-Crickets.

For *Chub*, *Barbel*, *Roach* and *Dace*, you may Angle with Cheese, or Oat-Cake, especially at the Ledger Bait, the Cheese you may wrap up two or three days in a wet Linnen Cloth, or moisten it over with Honey and Water.

Black-berries, Mulberries, Cherries, or Rasberries take the *Chub* in Ponds or Rivers, Lip berries, or Aron-berries, being when ripe, of a transparent red, found in dry Ditches, or dry Banks, fit for use in *July* and *August*, two of these on a Hook

Hook will take a *Roach*, and four a *Chub*.

As for a *Pike* he is a greedy Devourer, and therefore mostly delights in Fish, Frogs, &c. therefore your Baits for him must be small *Dace*, *Minows*, *Roach*, *Salmon-Smelt*, *Gudgeon*, *Bleak*, *Millers-thumb*, small *Pearch* with the back Fins cut off, also *Trout* and *Eels* well scoured in Wheat-Bran, to take away the Slime; and indeed most sort of small Fish he takes, and how you are to manage them on your Hook, I shall tell you when I come to treat of the taking him in the River of *Thames*. *Periwinkle*, a kind of Water-Snail, is much used for *Roach*, being taken whole out of its Shell; Shrimps taken out of their Husk or Shell, may be used as a Bait for *Pike* or *Chub*. The *White-blite* with much Seed, by some called *All-seed*, is a proper Bait for Fish.

Sandy Muddy heaps, near to the Shoar in Rivers.

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*Pastes proper for the  
Angler.*

Pastes are of several kinds, though tending to one and the same end, for a *Chub* or *Chevin*, make a Paste of the fatted Old Cheese, the Suet of a Mutton Kidney, a little strong Rennet, mix them equally and finely together, then put as much Pouder of Turmerick, as will give them a fine Yellow Colour.

For *Roach* and *Dace*, Grate fine Bread into a little fair Water, wherein Gum-Ivy has been soaked. For the *Barbel* in *August*, make a Paste of New Cheese and Mutton Suet. For *Roach* or *Dace*, you may put a little Butter to your Crumb-bait, and Colour it with Saffron. For *Carp* or *Tench*, mix crumbs  
ef

of Bread with Honey, though for a *Carp* I reckon this the surest.

Take Bean Flower, or for want of it Wheat-flower, the inside of the Leg of a young Rabbit, Catkin, or Whelp, white Bees-wax, and Sheeps Suet proportionable, beat them in a Mortar till well incorporated, then moisten the Mass with clarified Honey, and work it up into little Balls, before a gentle Fire.

The *Chub* in Winter takes a Paste made of strong Cheshire Cheese, beaten with Butter and Saffron till it become a Lemon Colour.

Stoned Cherries, fine grated Manchet, Sheeps Blood and Saffron make a good Paste for *Roach*, *Dace*, *Bleak*, *Chub*, *Trout*, *Pearch*, and for the *Chub* only put a little Rusty Bacon in it.

Another excellent Paste is made

made of the fattest Old Cheese, Mutton Kidney Suet, strong Rennet, Anniseed Water, Wheat Flower, and the dripping of Rusty Bacon held against the Fire.

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*What is to be observed in Angling with Pastes.*

1. **Y**OU must Proportion the quantity of your Paste you put on your Hook, to the smallness or largeness of the Fish you Angle for, as in other Baits.

2. You may try Oils upon any of these Pastes, and as you see your Success, so continue the one, or the other: And the best for this purpose, are Oil of Polypody of the Oak, Oil of Petre, Oil of Ivy, and as properly

perly Gum of Ivy, and Aſſaſoe-tida.

3. To strengthen any Paſt, and so prevent its washing off the Hook, it will not be amiss to beat a ſmall quantity of fine Flax cut ſhort, Cotton, Wool, or fine Lint, among them, which will prove very binding; thoſe that you would have keep long, put a little White Bees-wax into them, and anoint them with clarified Honey, the latter you may wipe off, when you ſee occaſion.

4. Paſte, or tender Baits muſt not be Angled with, in ra-pid Streams, but on a ſmall Hook in Pits, Ponds, Meers, or ſlow Running Rivers; your Eye in this ſort of Angling muſt be quick, your Rod ſomewhat ſtiff, and a nimble Hand to pull up, or else the Bait and Fish will quickly bid you farewell. This is better done with a Quill-float than

than a Cork, which sooner shews the nibble or bite, and if you then be not very quick, your Labour is lost, and with these Pastes, success is usually had for *Bream, Bleak, Chub, Roach, Dace, Carp, Tench, Barbel.*

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*Oils and Ointments useful  
in Angling.*

**T**AKE Oil of Ivy-berries, andoint the inside of an Oak-en Box with it, and put three or four Worms, or other live Baits into the Box, shutting it close, but keep them not there too long, lest the Strength of the Oil kill them, but take these out and put in more, and so they being scented with the Oil, it will allure the Fish the more readily to take them. This may be

be done in the same manner for want of Oil, with Gum-Ivy, which is a Tear that flows out of the Ivy Stalks, when slit, or wounded by piercing.

Oil of Spike and dissolved Gum-Ivy, are held to be much attracting, the Bait being anointed with them.

Oil of Polypody, of the Oak, Venice Turpentine, and new Honey is very good, if eight Inches of the Line next the Hook, be anointed with it, but then there must be two or three Hairs, for it will not well stick to a single one, however, do not clog your Line with it.

Chemical Oil of Lavender, or for want of it, Oil of Spike six drops, three drams of Assafoetida, Venice Turpentine one Dram, Camphire one Dram, make these into an Ointment, and anoint your Line as the former;

mer ; this in Clear Water wonderfully takes Gudgeons.

Man's Fat, and the Fat of the Thigh-bone of a Heron, makes an Ointment that rarely fails, and is esteemed by those that have tried it, the best of any, being a new Experiment.

But let me commend to you above others this, take the Oils of Chamomile, Lavender, Anniseed, each a quarter of an Ounce, Man's Fat, Heron's Grease, and Cats Grease, and the best Assafoetida, each two Drams, two Scruples of Cummin Seed, finely beaten to Powder, Venice Turpentine, Camphir and Galbanum, of each a Dram, add two Grains of Civet, and make them into an Unguent ; this must be kept close in a glazed Earthen Pot, or it loses much of its Vertue, anoint your Line with it as before, and your

your expectation will be strangely answered.

Oil of Asper so much noised about, and said to be Extracted from a Fowl called the *Osprey*, is now found to be a mixture of the Oil of Spike, Lavender, and refined Oil of Turpentine, which however has a considerable effect in still, or slow moving Waters; and observe in this case, your Line must be anointed every second drawing up, or the strength of the scent being washed off, you may expect your Sport to cease.

I might now speak something of Artificial Flies, and other Artificial Baits, but not to keep the Angler too long from the Water, I shall have occasion elsewhere to treat of them.

*Fishes Haunts proper to be known.*

**I**F you are not certain of any Waters to Fish in, your business is to try the most likely and promising, *viz.*

Where Trees fallen, Wood, Rushes, Weeds, or Rubbish are in Rivers, or likely large Ponds, there are store of Fish promised, for thither they resort for warmth and shelter, but it is very troublesome Angling there.

The next are Weirs, Weir-Pools, Mill Streams, Flood-gates, Piles, Posts, Pillars of Bridges, Cataracts and Water-falls, Eddies, Whirling Pits, the side of a Stream, in the Summer especially, for then they love to bask and lye shallow, unless the Weather be excessive hot; the I may herein except Carp, Eel,

and *Tench*, in the Winter, find for the generality the deep as the warmest, in a gentle Ebb and Flow, by the beating of the Waters, at any turning or opposing Bank, there is good biting, so that strait Rivers are not so advantagious to Angle in, as those that are Winding or Crooked, having Eddies, Pits, and Pools in them, occasioned by the Waters beating on the Points and Doublings, and thence being forced back, and into those Pits and Creeks, the Fish will get in some considerable numbers many times, where the Water is narrow, try both sides; but to come somewhat nearer.

The *Salmon* is found in large swift Rivers, that Ebb and Flow, Gravelly and Craggy. The *TROUT* mostly in purling Brooks and Rivers that are somewhat swift, and have Sandy Bottoms. The *Carp* and *Tench* love Still Waters,

Waters, or such as gently move, where Weeds or Roots of Trees are near to shelter them on occasion. *Eels* generally covet Muddy Rivers, Ponds, or Slimy Sand, especially those of the larger size. The *Pike*, *Bream* and *Chub*, are mostly found in Sandy or Clay Rivers, Brooks or Ponds, wherein Bushes, Bulrushes, or Flags grow. The *Barbel*, *Roach*, *Dace* and *Ruff*, for the most are found in Sandy or Gravelly deep : Rivers, coveting to be under the shade of Trees. The *Umber* is likeliest to be found in Marley or Clayey Streams, running very swift. The *Gudgeon* likes best a Sandy or Gravelly bottom; yet for all this, a trial of divers Waters will not be amiss, where you may suspect any Fish are likely to breed; for Experience in this, Art is the surest Instructor.

Times proper above others to Angle in, according to the Water, Weather, &c.

1. IN the hottest Months, take your opportunity when it is Cloudy, and the Water is moved by gentle gales.

2. when the Floods have carried away the filth, sudden showers incumber the Waters with, and the Rivers, &c. retain their usual bounds, looking of a palish colour.

3. When a violent shower has Muddied or Troubled the Water, and after that the stream runs swift, for then they usually seek for Creeks, and Shelter, and in the little Rivulet running into the great one.

4. If you Fish for Carp or Tench, do it early in the Morning, viz a little before Sun-rise, till eight, and from four in the

C Afternoon

Afternoon, till Sun-set, when the days are of a convenient length, June, July, and August, but in March, the beginning of April, and the end of September, they refuse not to bite in the warmth of the day, the Wind being still.

5. If you Angle for the Salmon, the best time is from three in the Afternoon till Sun-set, and in the Morning as before, his proper Months are May, June, July and August. The Barbel bites best in May, June, July and the beginning of August, from five to eleven in the Morning. The Pearch and Ruff all day in very Cool and Cloudy Weather. The Bream bites from Sun-rise, till nine or ten in the Morning in Muddy Water, especially when the Wind blows hard, for the most part keeping in the middle of the River or Pond in May, June, July, or August.

6. Th

6. The *Pike* Bites in *July*, *August*, *September* and *October*, about three in the Afternoon, in gentle Water, and a clear Gale. In Winter he Bites all the Day long, and in *April*, *May*, and the beginning of *June*, early in the Morning, and late in the Evening. As for *Rhach* and *Dace*, they Bite all the Day long, if the Weather be not in the extremities of Heat or Cold, on the top of the Water. The *Gudgeon* Bites best in *April*, and till he has spawned in *May*, and if the Weather be cool, till Wasp time, and at the end of the Year all day long in a gentle stream; observe when you Angle for him, to stir and rake the ground, and he will Bite the better. As for the *Flounder* though he is found only in Ebbing and Flowing Rivers, that have Communication with the Sea, he Bites freely all day in *April*, *May*

*June*

June and July, in a swift stream,  
he will Bite in the Still, but not  
near so freely.

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Ground Baits to gather and feed  
the Fish, that you may better,  
and readily know, where to find  
them, &c.

**T**HE Ground Baits, or for  
Baiting the Ground, are  
Barly or Wheat soft Boiled,  
which for prevention of scatter-  
ing, you may mix with some  
pleasant fresh Earth, Ale-grains,  
Wheat Bran steeped in sheeps-  
blood, Blood clotted, dried and  
cut in small pieces, Periwinkles  
bruised in their Shells, black  
and white Snails, Worms cut in  
sunder, and made up in little  
Balls of Earth. The Guts of  
Fowl, the small Guts or Livers  
cut small, Old Cheese and Oat-  
Cakes, bruised together, Malt  
groaty

grossly ground, these especially gather *Tench*, *Dace*, *Carp*, *Chub*, *Roach*, *Bream* and *Barbel*; and the more you feed them, they will be the surer to keep to that place, and be the fatter to reward your pains when taken, and these throw in a little above the place you Angle at, if it be a moving Water, for before they ground, the stream will carry them some distance from the place you throw at.

These are especially good when you Angle with the Cod-bait, Gentle, Wasp, or Paste, for it will make them take your Bait more eagerly, and with less suspicion. And this directs you to the *Pike* or *Pearch*, for if those Fish you Angle for be not there, and neither others have circumvented you, nor the Season improper, then are these two devourers of Fish, lurking thereabout, and the rest dare

not approach for fear of being made a Prey, therefore use suitable Tackle and Baits to take them, and then other Fish will boldly approach.

When you Angle in Clear Water, keep out of sight as much as may be, sheltered behind some Bush or Tree, or by standing as far off as possible, keeping your Eye only on the surface of the Water, where your Float is, and to effect this the better, your Rod must be proportionable in length, to answer the place you Fish at, and especially at the ground, and a long Rod and Line at Artificial Flies are very necessary; an Angler must add Silence to his Patience, and move his Body as little as possible may be, for the Fish are very quick-sighted, and naturally fearfull, particularly the *Chub*, *Carp* and *TROUT*.

When in a Clear Water you Angle

Angle at the Ground, or with a Natural Fly Dibble, always do it going up the River, but in Muddy Water, or when you do it with a Dib-fly use the contrary; if you have hooked a Fish, and suspect the strength of your Line or Rod, let him Play and Tire within the Water, before you offer to bring him near the top, be sure to keep the Rod bent, lest running to the end of the Line, he break his hold, or the Nook, and if he be tired, and have in a manner done flustering, bring him towards the top, and if there be occasion, use your Landing Net or Hook; and take this for a general rule in hooking all strong Fish.

*How to take the Salmon and Salmon-Smelt, by Angling, &c*

THE Salmon though not found in many Rivers in *England*, is of Principal note for River Fish, though it as well belongs to the Sea. The chief Rivers noted for them are the *Thames*, *Severn*, *Trent*, *Lon* at *Lancaster*, and about *Cockersand-Abby* at *Workington* in *Cumberland*, *Bywell*, in *Northumberland*, *Durham*, *Newcastle on Tine*, *Dee* in *Cheshire*, and some Rivers in *Wales*, as *Usk*, *Wye* and *Towy*; he commonly is found in the Water deep and about the middle

His best Biting is Nine in the Forenoon, and Three in the Afternoon in Clear Water, especially when the Wind blows against the stream, but not very roughly: Then take the Baits directed, and the strongest Tackle, for when he is struck, he

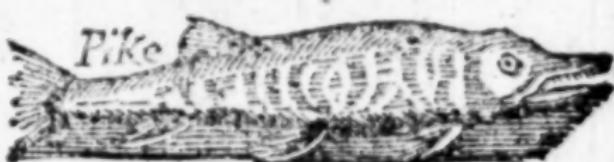
he plunges and leaps, though not usually does he endeavour to go to the end of the Line.

The younger sort of these are so tender mouthed, that unless you fasten two Hooks almost in a quarter of a Circle asunder, they usually break hold; for the great *Salmon*, the principal Bait is well scoured Dew-worms, for the *Salmon-Smelts* the Brandling, Gilt-tail, Meadow-worm, &c. and for Flies he takes them Natural or Artificial, and if you use these, a Cod bait or Gentle at the top of the Hook is effectual, this with the Dub-fly takes *Salmon Smelts* beyond Expectation, but for a greater *Salmon*, if your Fly be Artificial, make it very large, with six Wings one behind another, that by that and the different colours, he may suppose it as indeed it will appear in the Water, a Cluster of Flies. He is taken

at the Ground with a running Line or Float, and sometimes he Bites lower than Mid-water at ground-baits ; he is taken with Oak-worms, Dub-flies, Cod-baits, Clap-baits, and the larger sort sometimes take the Minow and Loach, and for these you may Angle with a Wyer Ring on the top of the Rod, letting the Line ran through it to a great length, and when he's hooked, and is spent with plunging, fix your Land-hook in his Mouth, that is screwed to the end of a Pole, as directed, to Land him. *Salmon* is the best of Fish, very sweet, and of extraordinary Nourishment ; Eat it Moderately : it restores in Consumptions, if Pickl'd, it strengthens the Stomach, and begets a good Appetite.

Several

Several ways to take the Pike, and where to find his Haunts, &c.



**T**O find this Greedy Fish, you must Cast in Sandy, Chalkey, or Clayey places, somewhat near the Banks, for he coveting solitude, often lurks in holes to surprize other Fish, as they fearlessly swim by, sometimes he shelters among Bulrushes, Water-Docks, Weeds, or Bushes, and then he Bites about the middle of the River, or Pond, at Mid-water, and for him you must keep your Bait in a gentle motion, and at all times to be above a Foot from the Ground; he rarely Bites in the Night, for then he is for the

most part gone to rest in his retirement. In April, May, June, and the beginning of July, he does it most freely Morning and Evening in Clear Water, and a gentle gale in Still Water, or a moderately moving one, and in the rest of July, August, September and October, his best Biting time is about Three in the Afternoon, in Water as before in Winter Months, if the Weather be pleasing, and the Water Clear, he will not refuse to Bite at any time, though the most certain time is about Three of the Clock in the Afternoon, if particularly in a Gleomy, Cloudy Day, but the Water Muddied with Rains, there is no certainty of him, his beloved Baits are Gudgeon, Roach, Dace, Minnows, Salmon-Smeltts no bigger than Gudgeons, very small Pikes; in the Winter Months a piece of an Eel, Fat Bacon, a young Trout

or

or *Pearch*, if the Pricks be cut off the Back, &c. but all his Baits must be very fresh, and a live one tempts him much the sooner, which may be put on by drawing the Line between the Skin and the Ribs of the Fish, and so on the Hook, fastening it in the Gills, and this you may use in Trowling, but here have your Tackle very strong, with Wire about a foot from your Hook, that next to it Silk, & the rest of the Line strong spun Flax, come as little as you can near the Weeds, lest they spoil your Bait before the *Pike* comes at it, fasten the Tail of the Bait to the Joint of the Wyre, and having fixed your Tackle, that the Line may Run and Play; let so much Lead be at the Hook, as may carry the Fish's Head downwards, as if after Playing on the top, she was going to the bottom, and when you have

sunk

funk it so, that it is at a convenient depth for the *Pike*, slack your Line, and give it scope, that he may run to his hold, and there pouch or swallow it, which you may know by the moving of the Line in the Water, then with a smart Jerk, Hook him; some use no Rod with this, but Lead and Float, holding the Line in their Hands on Links, and indeed there are several methods taken, though all to the same purpose, wherefore for brevities sake I omit them.

Angling for him at the Snap, is to give him leave to run a little, and then strike, which must be done the contrary way to that which he moveth, therefore a double spring-hook is useful in this way of Angling especially, for a great *Pike* usually will hold the Bait so fast in his Teeth, that you may fail to pull it out of his Mouth, and likewise

wife strike him, when if he holds the spring-hook never so fast, the Wyre will draw through the Bait, and so the spring opening you will frequently Hook him on the outside of his Mouth, though Trowling is surer than this, and more practicable, yet this is best used in *March*, when the *Pike* Bites ill, then upon Spawning they are Sick, and lose their Stomachs, Bait this as the former, and he may be taken this way, when he is so. A *Pike* is more Excellent than *Carp*; Sick People may eat it; Cross-Bone in the Head good against Falling-Sicknes; Spawn or Row provokes Vomiting and Stool; Heart Eaten cures Fevers, they live two Hundred Years.

*Other Brief Rules for Pike Angling.*

**W**hen the *Pike* has taken your Bait, observe how

how he moves, if slowly, give him time, and you will rarely miss him; let not your Bait fall in one and the same place above once or twice, for if he take it not, then he is farther off.

2. If you find after he has taken the Bait, he lies still, as sometimes he will, move your Hand gently, to get notice which way his Head lies, lest in striking you happen to pull the Bait out of his Mouth, if that cannot be discerned, strike directly upward: At the Snap have strong Tackle, and give two lusty Jerks quickly one after another, fastening a Swivel at the end of your Line, which must be used at Trowl and Snap, and your Armed Wyre must be hooked on it.

3. For the Snap, have a hollow piece of Lead, that it may pass over the Wyre, and end of the Hook, which you draw with-

in the Fishes Gills or Mouth, that as directed, it may keep the Head downwards, and at either of these Baitings, if you cut away one of the Fins of the Bait close at the Gills, also behind the vent, and one on the contrary side, it will play the better, and seem more lively.

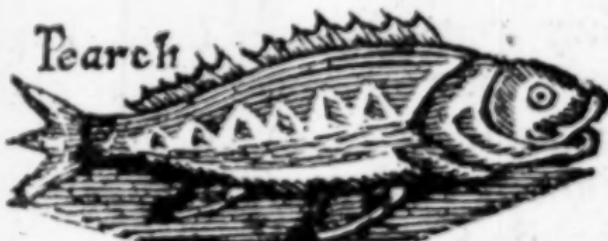
4. Be sure to raise your Hand in Casting, when the Bait is about to fall into the Water, so that by dashing it may not fright him away, and when it is sunk a little, draw it near the top towards you a little, and so let it fall again; and if your Wyre Hook is joined with a Steel Ring, the Bait will play better, and sink more direct; for *Snap*, *March* is the chief Month, *February*, *April*, *May*, *September* and *October* for the Trowl, and though a large Bait invites him most, yet a lesser takes him more surely, yet let

let your Bait be suitable to your Hook; and this way with a *Minow*, *Loach* or small *Gudgeon*, you may take *Pearch*, and if possible, always Trowl in Clear Water in a Windy Day, and then a *Gudgeon* will do well for the *Pike*, but if a Dark, Cloudy Day, *Roach*, *Dace*, or *Bleak*, are to be preferred.

To snare a *Pike*, when you perceive him raise, and staying near the Surface of the Water, fasten about a yard and a half of strong Pack-thread to a Pole, and at the end of it, a running Noose of small Wyre, softly putting it over his Head, with a quick Jerk throw him to Land; this is often done to Young *Pikes*, but the Older are more wary, though sometimes catched by this means, especially in Ponds, as also when they come out of Rivers, and go a Frogging in Ditches, in May, June, and July.

To

## To find and Angle for Pearch.



This Fish delights in a good Stream, of a moderate depth, abiding usually close by a hollow Bank, Pebbly, Gravelly bottomed, with Green Weeds growing in it, being commonly a River Fish, he Bites little in Winter, but in the middle of the Day, yet in Summer all Day if the Weather be Cool and Cloudy, and the Water shaken with the Wind, but more freely from Seven till Ten in the Morning, and from Two in the Afternoon till Six, and sometimes till Sun set; if in the middle of Summer, you must look

look to him when he is struck, for he's a very strong Fish, and will struggle hard, and long; they generally go many together, and if there be a great many in a hole, if you light right on them, you may, at one standing, catch the greater part, if you give them time to Bite; for if you are too hasty in striking, you may chance to miss your Aim; he takes almost all manner of Worms, as Dew-worms, Red-worms, Meadow-worms, Cod baits, also the *Minow*, *Loach*, small Frogs, Wasps, Hornets, and Humble-Bees.

He is best taken with a Float, resting the Bait about six Inches from the ground, and sometimes he is taken about mid-water, some use a Ledger Bait on the Ground, but the first depth has usually the best success,

He's

He's good against Feavers, and  
the Stone in his Head good a-  
gainst Stone in the Reins.

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*To Angle for the Carp, &c.*



This Fish has always been in great Esteem, and made many Industrious to find ways to take him. They delight in sandy or muddy bottoms, in still deep Water, and in green, or Grass growing under the Water, by the sides of the Pond or River, though in a good Pond they thrive best; they are very wary, and hard to be catch'd; their first Spawning time is about May-Day,

Day, breeding three times a Year, and wonderfully increase if they like the Water they are in, they live long, though most disagree about their particular number of Years, and indeed I see no Reason how he should be exactly known.

They bite very early in April, May, June, July, and August, and sometimes all Night if the Weather be Hot, and Star-light, in the still deep Water, if you Angle in the day time keep out of sight as much as may be; therefore provide a long Rod, he is very strong, and must Play when struck, or he'll carry off your Hook by breaking the Line or Rod.

Use always the Float and Quill, Angle for him sometimes above, and sometimes below Mid-water, as the Weather is, though in Mid-water he is the certainliest taken, especially in

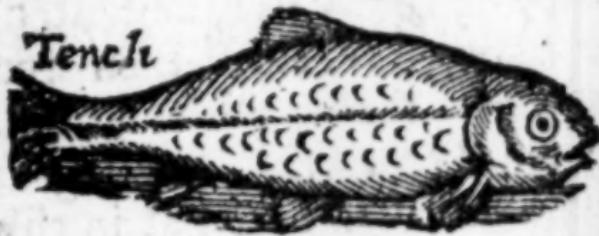
Pond, but in Rivers they are very shy, lay a ground Bait for the *Carp* with ground Malt.

The Baits you use on your Hook must be Gentles, two or three on the Hook, then put a little square bit of Scarlet on the top of the Hook, above the Bait of Gentles, dipped in Oil of the Rock, or Petre, this is held an excellent Bait; they take likewise Bobs, Wasps, Sweet Paists, Marsh-worms, Flig-worms, Gilt-tails, Dew-worms, the Cod-bait and Bread-grain boiled soft; and in *June* and *July*, in the heat of the Day, they shew themselves on the top of the Water, and oftenest among Weeds, then you may take them with a well cowred Lobworm, Angling as with a Natural Fly, but in this case keep from their seeing you, as much as possible you can; a *Carp* is a numerous breeder, as Sprawding

Spawning three or four times a Year, therefore as a caution to those that stock Ponds with them, let them be warm and secure from Cold Winds, fenced by Trees, and the place allowing good Feed, for otherwise the Pond being over stored, they will starve themselves, and other Fish that are with them.

Carp is a Fat and Sweet Fish, nourishes much, his Fat cures diseases of the Nerves, Gall helps Dimness of Sight.

*Observations on the Tench and the best way to Angle for him.*



**T**HE Tench is accounted a very good Fish, and much covetted, yet he takes]delight in Mud

dy or Foul Water, and among Weeds, the Ponds that are suitable for Carp, please him better than the Rivers, and in Pits he thrives better than in either, if they be agreeable to time, though in some Pits they will not, though they breed, come to any bigness, and in some it is held they will not breed at all, but if any be put in they will thrive wonderfully ; but this I believe may happen where the Storer is not Skilful to distinguish Males from Females, but by an unlucky guess put in all of one sort, and though he coats Mud, yet his Fins are very large, and to know him from others, there are two little Barbs at the Angles or Corners of his Mouth, his Scales are small and smooth, and about his Eyes are Circles of a Golden colour , he is accounted the Physician to the rest, so that the **D** Devouring

Devouring Pike, who being sick is cured by him, will not, unless great hunger provoke, hurt or destroy him, though he spares not his own kind. This Gift of Healing is said to be by a Medicinal Balm, sweating from his Skin, which the Sick Fishes take in as Phyfick, and indeed his Flesh is good in Consumptions, (or any Languishing of the parts) for Men. They Bite best from as soon as it is Light, to Eight in the Morning, and from Four in the Afternoon, till a quarter after Sunset, but in the hot Months, if the Weather be not Tempestuous, they many times Bite all Night, their best Season is, from the beginning of September, to the end of May and about the beginning of July the Tench Spawns.

He takes the Cod-bait, Marsh-worm, Gentle, Flag-worm or Red-worm well cowred, and to

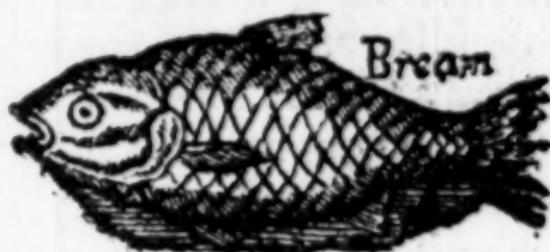
make

make it take the better, you may dip your Bait in a little Tar Water just before you use it, though the plain Bait many times pleases him well: For want of the former Baits, you may use Pasts sweetened with Honey, or Wasps.

Angle for him with a Float of Quill, letting the Bait into the Water two Foot, sometimes more or less, but no great matter: His Vertue read next Page.

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*The Bream his Haunts, and how to Angle for him.*



THE Bream is a Large but Bloody Fish, he is found in Rivers

vers and Ponds, but in the latter if convenient, he delights best, he is long growing, and will be very Fat, and is almost as great a Breeder as the *Carp*. The *Breams* swim divers together, especially in a gentle stream, they love a Sandy or Clayey bottom, and the deepest and broadest part of the Water, your best time in Season, is to Angle for him from Sun-rise to Eight a Clock in a moderate stream, the Water a little Slimy or Muddy, especially when a good breeze troubles the Water, and in Windy Weather, if in a Pond, he generally keeps the middle, and there you are most likely to find him. In the Afternoon, your time is from Three or Four till Sun-set. But in a darkish windy day he bites at any time.

He is Angled for with much success, from the beginning of

April till Michaelmas, and may be taken at other times, except the very cold Months.

He takes as Baits Flag-worms, Wasps, Gentles, Grasshoppers, their Legs being off, Red-worms, Gilt-tails, and Meadow-worms well scowered, Bobs, and under Water, Flies, especially the green ones; when he bites, he runs off with the Bait to the further Shore, or as far that way as he can, and therefore you must give him play, for though he seems a Fish made strong enough, he will not much struggle, but after two or three turns he falls on one side, and may be easily landed.

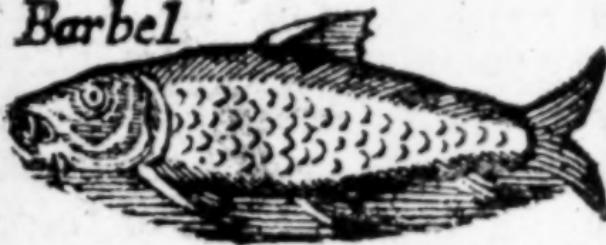
Here you must Angle with a Float, so that the Bait may touch the Ground, you may make Ground Bait for Bream with Malt, and it will draw them together. A Bream is a boney Fish, and of as good

Nourishment as the *Carp*, the *Tench* is but indifferent Nourishment, slit and laid to the Soles of the Feet cure Fevers, laid alive to the Navel it cures the Jaundice.

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*The Barbel, how to find and take him by Angling.*

*Barbel*



**T**HIS FISH is very strong, and takes his Name from the Barbs that hang at his Mouth, is curiously shaped with small Scales. In the hot Months you will find him in the swift strong Streams, though he shuns the Cureart and delights somewhat more

more out of the Rapidity, under shades of Trees, lurks under Trees that are fallen into the Water and Weeds, where they root in the Sands like a Hog, and so Nest, some suppose him to eat much Gravel and Sand, but I rather fancy he seeks for Insects, or other Food that heat and moisture produces in the bottom of Shallows, yet sometimes he is found in the deep and swift Waters, especially at Wears, Bridges, or Flood-gates, where he shelters among Piles, or on hollow places, holding by the Moss or Weeds, to prevent his being carried away by the Stream, when Winter is coming on he retires to the still deep.

His best biting time is early in the Morning, that is, from the Sun rising till Ten, and from Four till the Sun sets, and often later, and this principally happens from the 20th. of May

to the latter end of *August*; you must be wary in taking him, for he is very subtil, and struggles long, unless well managed, many are found together frequently, but in *April* they are little worth, for then is the Spawning time.

As for the Baits you intend to take him with, care must be had that they are very sweet, and such as give him not distaste; Angle for him with a Float, and so let down the Bait that it may touch the Gravel; he takes Bobs, Humble-Bees, Gentles not over scowred, Dew-Worms, New Cheese, Red Worms, Paste, the young Brood of Wasps, Hornets, and so cunning he is, that you will be cheated of many a Bait in Angling for him, if you do not have a watchful Eye, and a quick Hand, for he will nibble and suck it off, and ten to one when your Float sinks,

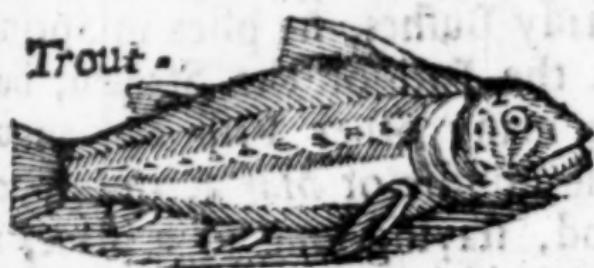
and

and you attempt to strike, whether he has the Hook in his Mouth, yet often if you strike the contrary way his Head lies, you may take him by the Nose, and give him play till tired, or else if he be any thing large, unless your Tackle be very strong, part of it goes with him; he is not an over pleasant Fish to eat, by reason he's somewhat dry, and very full of Bones. Some say he is easie of Concoction, his Eggs and Spawn vomit and purge violently.

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*The Trout his Haunts, best way to Angle for him, and his Baits.*

*Trout.*



**T**O be most sure of finding the *Trout* address your Angle  
D S g le

gle to small purling Brooks, or swift gliding Rivers, not too great, observe whether their bottoms are Pebble, Gravel, or smooth Stones, for on the sides of these he usually has his Residence, though he is often found in the deep, especially a large one, also behind Banks, Blocks, Stones, at Turnings or Points, where the Stream much beats, or makes a kind of whirling, he loves **coverture** and shade, from whence he may most easily seize his Prey, but his hold or hole is usually in deep places, he is seldom found among Weeds, rather among the Boughs of Trees that hang in the Water or shady Bushes, he plies in Spring at the Tail of the Stream, but as many other Fish do, about the middle of *May* at the upper end, staying long in a place, if his hold be near it, in the hot Weather, he leaves the deep, and

and goes into the sharper Streams among Gravel, unless by the excessive heat of the Weather, droughts ensue, and then the still deep delights him.

This *Trout* may be taken by dibbing, or if the Weather be dark, cloudy, and windy, you may take him with the Cast-fly, he is in Season from *March* till *Michaelmas*, but chiefly about the end of *May*, when he is in the best Season; his Body is adorned with red spots, the Female is accounted better than the Male, they much affect to be near the Source or Spring of Rivers, and where they run on Lime-Stones, there the best *Trouts* are found.

Angle for him at the Ground with a running-Line, with two or three small Pellets of Lead, omitting the Float, or you may take him by Float Angling at the Ground, if you are dexterous at Angling with a single

D-6 Hais,

Hair, two Links from your Hook, he is much sooner taken than with two or three Hairs, though you must be cautious he break not the Line, and this is better done at the bottom, than top, because there he has not so much force to shoot and spring, as on the top, and a single Hair next the Hook, if well chosen and strong, will take one of 13 Inches, if there be Water-room, free from Wood and Weeds.

He bites best in a Water that after a Flood is clearing, or rising, somewhat troubled, cloudy and windy Weather, early in the Morning is the best time from the middle of *April*, to the end of *August*, from Sun-rising till near Eleven, and from two till Sun-set, but Nine in the Morning, and Three in the Afternoon are the best times, at the Ground or Fly as the Water is

is most agreeable, in *March*, the beginning of *April*, *September*, and till the fifteenth of *October*, and then you must cease Angling for the *Trout*, to the end of *February*; after a Shower has fallen in the Evening, you will find him rise at a *Gnat*. In warm Weather you may dib for him with the *Minow* or *Loach*.

As for other Baits than what I have mentioned, the principal are at the Ground, *Brandlings*, *Gilt-Tails*, *Tag-Tails*, *Meadow-Worms*, and for the greater, *Dew-Worms* well scoured, the two first hold him all the Seasons, either in meddy or clear Waters, the rest do well when the Water is discoloured with Rain, you may use a *Cod-bait*, either for top or bottom, but then it must be in clear Water, he takes the *Palmet-fly* or *Wool-bed*, and all sorts of Artificial and Natural Flies at the top.

top of the Water. When you Bait with small Fish, as the Menow, Bull-head, and Loach, cut off their Fins, and the Gills of the latter, and so with these Instructions and a little practice to ripen Experience, depend on success. He is equal in goodness to any Fish, his Fat is good against Hemorrhoids, or Clefts in the Fundament.

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*The Eel, their Haunt, Bait, and taking them, &c.*



There is many Disputes about the Generation of Eels, whether they generate and breed as other Fish do, or proceed from Mud and Putrefaction, enlivened

livened by heat and moisture, but my Business being to instruct you how to come by them, I shall lay no strels on that Nicety, since *Eels* there are, and for their delicacy, are called by some the Queen of Fish.

Their Haunts in the day time are usually under the covert of Tree-roots, Brush-wood, Planks, or Piles, about Flood-gates, Wears, or Mill dams, in hollow holes in Banks, they mostly delight in foul still Water, or at least such as runs very slow, with Ousey Sand, or Muddy Bottoms, in Pits, Ponds and Meers.

Bait for him with a young Lamprey, Dew-worms, scowred Earth-worms, any very small Fish their Fins cut off, Guts of Chickens or other Fowl cut in small lengths, Lean Beef, the Blood of Wasps, the four first take him Day or Night, but most

most of the rest are properest for Night Hooks.

Take him in the day by a Ledger Bait, by Snigling, Bobbing, Brogling; as for Brogling and Snigling, the best method I have known is this, get a long and strong Line, your Hook of a small compass, Baited with scowred Red worms, or Dew-worms, having one end of your Line in your Hand, place very easily the upper end of your Hook in the Cleft of a Hazle-Rod of convenient length, so that it may slip out as you please, and where you fancy the *Eel* to be, let the Bait leisurely sink, and supposing it swallowed by giving time leisurely, draw him up by little and little, else lying double, with the strength of his Tail, your Line is endangered.

This you must practise in hot Weather, the Waters being low: As for

Bobbing,

Bobbing, take large Earth-worms out of good Mould, scowre them well in Moss, and run a strong thread with a needle through them end-ways, as many as will lightly wrap a dozen times round your Hand, make them into Links, and fasten them to a strong Pack-thread or Whip-cord two yards or more long; make a knot about six or eight Inches from the Worms, put about three quarters of a pound of Plummet, made Pyramidically on the Cord, by the means of a hollowness, or hole bored through it, and let it sink to the knot, fix the Cord to a manageable Pole; Angle with this in Muddy or Cloudy Water in the sides of the Streams, or Deep; when the *Eel* or *Eels* Tug, let them be well fastened by the Teeth, before you draw up, then do it gently, till on the top, and hoist them quickly then

then to Land ; many by this way have been taken at a time.

Some near *Eels* Haunts sink a Bottle of Hay loofly bound, stuffed with Fowls Guts and Liver, cut in long shreads over-night, and coming Early the next Morning, drawing it up hastily by the Rope fastened to the Band, find large *Eels* bedded in it for the sake of the Prey. This may be done with a bundle of Brush-wood, out of which upon pulling up, they cannot so easily get.

*Eel* is Sweet, affords much Nourishment ; broyl'd or roasted are best, Fat is good against blows, dropt in the Ears helps Old Pains and Deafness, helps Baldness.

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To Angle, &c. for the Grayling or Umber.

**T**hough this Fish has two Names given it, the for-

mer for the lesser sort, and the latter for the greater, yet both are the same Species,

Their Haunts are in Marly Clay, Clear Water, and swift Streams, the largest is accounted eighteen Inches, being in Season all the Year, but their prime is *December*, when his Gills and Head are Blackish, and his Belly a dark Gray, studded with Black Spots, he will Bite freely, but is very tender-mouthed, therefore be careful he break not hold, though he will not struggle much, as being very faint when he is Hooked; Angle for him, in or near the middle of the Water, for he's always more apt to rise than descend, wherefore he is rarely taken by a Ground Bait, rather than a running Line, use for him a Float of Cork, if you particularly Angle for him, but for *Grayling*

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*Grayling and Trout* the running  
Line is the best.

As for Baits, he takes Brand-  
lings, Gilt-tails, Meadow-worms,  
Tag-tails, the Bark-worm, -Flag-  
worm, Meadow-worm, Cod-  
bait, Natural or Artificial Flies,  
particularly the Camlet Fly,  
and Fly made of Purple Wool,  
and one made of Tawny Chamb-  
leg Hair, also the Earth-bob  
and Clap-bait. I find no Physi-  
cal Vertue in him, he affords  
good Nourishment; I believe,  
that the bloody end of the Head  
if it touches Warts and then bu-  
ryed, takes them away.

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*The Pope or Ruff, his Haunts  
how to Angle for him, with pro-  
per Baits &c.*

**T**HE Pope or Ruff, is one be-  
ing in Shape, Nature and  
Disposition, like the Pearch  
though

though in bigness not exceeding a large *Gudgeon*, but of a more pleasing taste, he Bites Eagerly, and many of them are usually together, where the Water runs slowly, and is deep in Sandy places, fifty of them have been taken at a standing. You may Bait for him with the small Red-worm, Gilt-tail, Meadow-worm, and other Baits proper for the *Pearch*, he Biting at the same time the *Pearch* do's; you may ground Bait with new turned up Earth of a Fallow, as also with a Clear Sand, you may take him with single Hair, the Link next the Hook, the Body of it is rough, and hath prickly, and sharp Fins; it has its Seasons and Nature like the *Pearch*, and is a very wholesome Fish, eating short and tender.

*Ruff*, the Stone in the Head helps the Stone in the Reins, Pleuritic and other pricking pains.

*The*

The Bleak or Bley, to Angle for  
him, &c.

This Fish makes sport, though not much valued, as not being very wholesome, it is many times destroyed by a Worm that breeds in its Stomach, in hot Weather he bites eagerly, and you may Fish for him with several Hooks on one Line, and if you catch three or four together on the several Hooks, not fear the breaking of your Line, tying them about half a Foot one above the other, he is easily taken with Gentles, small Red-worms, and the Dub-fly which must be of a sad brown; Angle at middle Water, or at the top, for he is usually in motion. There is another sort of these, called the *Sea-Bleak*, better and wholsomer than this, called by some the *Sea-Camelion*, because in the Water he seems of-

ten to change his colour, he is as good as any Carp.

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The Chub or Chevin his Haunts,  
and to Angle for him.

THE Chub though large, is a very timorous Fish, he is found in large Rivers, having Sandy or Clayey bottoms, delights much in Streams shaded with Trees, as also in holes, where many of them consort together, he is in Season from the middle of May till after Candlemas, you may take him with dibbing on the top of the Water, but in the hot Months he keeps mid-water, in the colder Weather Angle at the bottom with the Ledger Bait.

He bites from Sun-rising till Eight, and from Three till Sun-set, the large ones when struck

is soonest tired, the less will struggle longer, and in Sun-shiny Weather they bite, in Winter the middle of the Day.

He scarcely refuses any Bait, if not too large, as Lamprys-pride, the Eels Brood, Dew-worms, large Red-worms scowred in Moss and Gravel, Clap-baits, small Snails, White and Black Cheese Paste, the Marrow of an Ox or Cows Back, a Beetle with the Legs off, all sorts of Baits bred on Trees, Plants and Herbs, Cod-baits, Broods of Wasps, Hornets and Humble-Bees, the Fat of Rusty Beacon, Dors, Grasshoppers, also Rasberries, Black-Berries, Mulberries, a Fly, and a Cod-bait, and an Oak-worm on the Hook together, infallibly takes him in the hot months.

When he is taken he must be eaten the same Day, or is little worth, most esteem his Head the best part.

Dace or Dore, and Roach, their  
Haunts, Baits, and how to An-  
gle for them.

These delight in Ponds or Ri-  
vers with Gravelly bot-  
toms or Sand, they love deep  
Clear Waters, shaded with  
Trees, either in Rivers, or else-  
where; the *Dace* Spawns about  
the middle of *March*, and are in  
Season three Weeks after; the  
Flesh is soft and sweet in taste,  
and in *Italy* they are pickled as  
Anchovies.

You must Angle for the *Dace*,  
within two Inches of the bot-  
tom, and sometimes the Bait may  
touch it if it be with Worms, but  
with Flies, at the top of the Wa-  
ter, or within an Inch.

The *Roach* Spawns about the  
middle of *May*, and is so health-  
ful, that his Soundness has  
created an usual saying, though it  
often causes some to tell Lye:

E              The

The best *Roach* by reason of the abundance of Soil, are found in the *Thames* near *London*; Angle for him about two foot in the Water, and in Temperate Weather they bite all day long, the *Float Angle* takes them best.

Their Baits are numerous as their Fry, as Worms bred on Trees, Plants, Herbs, Gentles, Cod-baits, Grasshoppers with the Legs off, Flies Artificial or Natural; particularly the *Ant-fly*, Meadow-worms scowred, Bread-Corn boiled; the *Roach* in Ponds is chiefly found under the Water-docks, if there be any, and indeed few small come amiss to them; herein they Excite Lust, and cure Fevers.

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*The Flounder or Flook, his  
Haunts, Baits, and Angling.*

**T**HIS is properly a Salt-water Fish, no where but in Bi-

vers that have Communication with the Sea, and is first brought up by the Tide, and loosing himself in fresh Streams, he after some time minds not his way back again; they love Gentle Streams, Gravelly and Sandy bottoms, are very shy, and not easily taken; they bite all the day, *May, June, July*, and the beginning of *August*, though he will Nibble much about the Hook, and suck off the Bait, if you be not wary to keep it in motion, which hinders him from seeing the Hook, if he does, away he flies from it, sometimes he's in the deep, and sometimes in the Shallow, he takes scoured Meadow or Marsh-worms, Earth-worms, Gentles, the Brood of Wasps, Gilt-tails and Brandlings; he is to be Angled for with the Float, and your Bait must touch the Ground. He is of Good Nourishment

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Strengthens the Stomach, causeth Appetite, and helps the Spleen.

*The Minow, or Pench, Loach, and Bull-head or Millers-Thumb, Lampreys.*

**T**hese are rather Baits for other Fish than of any value in themselves. The first is taken with small Worms, Brandlings, and Gilt-tails, the two latter with Gilt-tails; Meadow-worms at the Ground; *Lampreys* are taken as the *Eel*, being much of that nature, therefore I omit for brevities sake to be tedious on these.

*Minow*, Feed by licking one another; *Loach* good for Women with Child, they all afford good Nourishment.

*Observations on, and Rules for Natural Fly Angling,*

**T**his is a choise point in Angling, requiring a quick Eye,

Eye, and wary Hand; it is termed by Artists Dibling, Dibing, or Dapeing, and is performed on the Surface of the Water, or at most sometimes not Letting the Bait sink above two or three Inches under, nor that, unless the *Chub* or *TROUT*, has joyued to it a Clap-bait or Cod-bait.

This must ever be done in Clear Water without Lead or Float, in the Evening of a Hot Day, or in a Hot Calm day is best, and the Still Deep is to be preferred before the Stream, though on the side of a Stream, when the Water is clearing after great Rains, or a Flood, is very proper, and all hours you may Dib with the Green Drake-fly, and if you needs must do it in the Stream, use the Stone-fly, which is proper Early and Late, but if in the Evening it is Windy, take the Artificial Stone-fly,

E 3 which

which I shall teach you to make; for then in the Stream the Fish rise the best, and are soonest taken, and if you pull off the Wings, you may Angle in the Water with it, and it will take very much in a Stream near the bottom, you must in this case observe to keep out of sight, as much as may be, and keep your Fly moving, that it may appear to the Fish to be alive.

In Dibbing for *Dace*, *Roach*, or *Chub*, let not your motion be swift, if you can perceive any of them coming towards it, but make two or three short removes, as if there were a Rest, or the Fly were Swimming or Playing, then let it gently glide with the Stream if possible towards the Fish, but if it be slow or standing Water, you must keep it moving with your Hand, not just upon him, but side-ways and sloping by him, this lest it should

should escape him, will make him mind it the more, for only the *TROUT* if it be moved swiftly, will of any certainty follow it.

In a Calm Dibbing it is not so sure, as when a pretty good Gale stirs the Water, for then neither you, nor the deceit put on the Fish by an Artificial Fly, is so easily discovered, and then few Natural Flies at liberty can lye on the Water, and for want of choice, they will Snap at the first that comes in their way and bite more eager for hunger; and if they will not rise at the top, try them a little lower, for soone will be sooner taken, as the *Roach*, particularly by Dibbing under the Water than at top, *Roach*, *Dace* and *Chub* will sometimes be pleased with an Artificial Fly, especially if an Earth-bib, Cod-bait, Earth-worm, or Gentle, be put on the point of the Hook, or an Oak-

worm is very pleasing on the top or under the Water.

At Dibbing and Trayling, *Trout* and *Salmon-Smelt* will take an Artificial Fly well, particularly the Stone-fly and Green-drake, Early, or late in the Evening; and if you Fish for *Salmon-Smelt*, *Roach*, *Chub* or *Dace*, with the Dub-fly, put on a Gentle, Wasp, Cod-bait, or Clap-bait, let it stand well on the point of your Hook, when the Wind Furls the Waters, and few Flies appear on it, or over it, is the best time to Angle with the Fly Natural or Artificial; for then having no variety of choice, they will quickly take your Bait; if it be a Sun-shiny day, get under the shade of Trees if you can, that neither the shadow of your Body, nor Rod may appear in the Water to fright them away; if you find the Fish rise not at top, sink

sink your Fly by degrees, and try even to middle-water, and before the sorts of Flies are naturally in Season, the Fish very rarely rise at them, therefore to know this, that you mistake not in your Baiting, observe what Flies are on the Water, or flying near over it, or are on the Bushes or Trees, of Ponds and Rivers, and that Fly that Swarms there most, is chief in Season, and is to be used either Natural, or to be imitated by Artifice; some open the fish Fish they take, and look in its Stomach to see what indigested Food there remains, and from that take their measures, tho' uncertain; for either it must be partly consumed, or so discoloured that it cannot well be known, and also Fish for Extream hunger, take in such Food at one time, as at another they altogether dislike.

You may for other Baits found in Rivers, grope in the Sand, Bank-sides within the Water, under the Stones, or observe what Insects are Playing, or Swimming in, or on the Surface of the Water, and so accordingly provide your self with seasonable Baits. In *May* you may Dib with Oak-flies, Fern-flies, or Oak-worms for *Trout*, and all Summer with the Fern-fly for *Chub*, keeping the Bait moving on the top of the Water, as if it were alive, and your self out of sight, as much as possible may be.

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### *Artificial Fly Angling.*

**A**rtificial Dub-fly or Cast-fly Angling, is somewhat more difficult, and requires more cunning than the former, and is more perfectly Learned by seeing it done, than by Print-  
ed

ed directions, however I doubt not but to give a satisfactory account of it to the Angler.

The first thing to be materially considered is, to know and chuse the proper colours of Flies in Season when you Angle, and these must be proportioned to the places you Fish in; for there are different Haunts, of Flies, and are found much earlier in some places than in others, as the Season proves Hot or Cold; a warm Spring brings them early, but the contrary latter, sometimes by a Month, and always sooner in high grounds, than in those that are Low and Marshy, or Boggy.

And though sometimes upon disgust, Fish suddenly change their Fly, yet it is not usual, until they have been glutted with one sort, and that must be some days first, and then that sort of Fly is near going out:

Nor will they freely take them, till they are at their best and most plentifull, and it always follows, when one sort goes out, another comes in, which you must have a special regard well to note, and make the change with them,

The Fly required being found, your next busines is, to make one in Colour, Shape, Proportion of Body and Wings, as like it as possible, always having the Natural one as a Pattern; and to do this, you must have in readiness Bears-hair of divers Colours, Camels hair-Sad, Light and of middle indifferent Colour, Badgers hair, Spaniels hair, Sheeps wool, Dogs hair, Hog Down, such as is Combed from the Roots or Bristles of a Hog, Camblets and Mohairs of divers Colours, Cow hair, Abortive Calyes, and Colts hair.

Furs of Squirrels Tails, the Tail

Tails of Black Cats, Yellow and Dun Cats, of Hares Neck, the Fern Colour Ferrets Fur, Martins, Yellow Fur, Filmers Fur, the Tails of White Weasles, Moles, Black Rabbets, Down of a Fox Cub, Ash-Colour at the Roots of Fox, Fur that comes off the Otter, and Otter Cub, Blackish and Brown Badgers hair, that has been in a Skinners Lime Pit.

Hackles or Feathers about a Cock or Capons Neck, and such as hang loosely down on each side the Tail, of various colours; particularly to make the Palmer-fly, or Insect called the Wool-bed, you must have Feathers of all sorts of Fowl, and those coloured Feathers required that you cannot get natural, you may dye,

You must also have Caddows or Blankets, out of which are got good Dubbings, so of Cuffions made of Abortive Skins of Calves and Colts, like Silver Wire,

Wire, Gold Twist, Silver Twist; White and Yellow Beeswax, for Ground Work or to frame the Bodies and Heads on, as the Nature of the Fly more or less requires it, and a sharp pointed neat pair of Scissars, to trim and shape your Work.

*How to make the Dub-Fly.*

**W**E T your Materials, to know how they will hold Colour, for though dry they may appear of the right Colour, yet Wet they may alter, and be too Light or too Dark; this done, take the Hook in your Left Hand, between your Fore-finger and thumb, the Shanks back upwards, take strong Silk of that Colour the Fly requires, and Wax it with Wax of the same Colour, and so draw it to the Head of the Shank, betwixt your Finger

and Thumb, and whip it about the bare hook two or three times; draw your Line between your Thumb and Finger, holding the Hook so fast, that it may only have space to pass by, so joining the Hook and Line, put on the Wings, fashion the Body and Head, by twisting the Dubbing on your Waxed Silk, and Lapping it on, so work it by degrees up towards the Head, and part the Wings of an even length, or the Fly will not Swim upright; then turn it into a proper shape, by nipping off the superfluous Dubbing from the Silk, so fasten and accouter your Fly: It would be well to see one done by an Experienced Angler, and then these Directions will be easie to you.

*Directions relating to Dub flies,  
and Angling with them*

1. **W**hen you proportion your Dub fly, consider the largeness or littleness of the Fish you intend it for, and be sure the Belly of it is of the exact colour, because it is most obvious.

2. Let not the Tail of the Fly be only to the bend of the Hook, and not come unto the bent of it.

3. If the *Trout* at the top of the Water refuse it, the day is not proper for it, or the Fly either out of Season, or ill made.

When you Angle with the Dubfly, it must be in such a River or Water which is clear, after Rain, or in a River a little discoloured with Moss or Bogs, in Mopish places, or else in a Cloudy, Gloomy Day, when the

the Water is stirred by gentle Gales; or if the Winds be pretty high, they will rise in the plain Deep, but in little Wind, the best is to Angle in the Stream.

Keep your Fly in continual Motion in all Weathers, to prevent the Fish from discerning the fraud; in clear and low Water let the Body of the Fly be the smaller, and the Wings very slender. In Dark Weather and thick Water, let the Fly be of a darkish colour, but it must be pretty large Body and Wings, the better to be discovered; in a clear day, a light colour'd Fly is preferable.

A Rod for the Dub fly should be five yards at least, and the Line about seven, or somewhat more, if the Water be free from Incumbrance of Weeds, &c. and to adapt your Fly to the colour of the Water more properly, have three of the sort,  
the

the one Light, the next a degree Darker, and the third the true Colour of the Natural Fly, by trying all which, you may gain the more Experience, for one of them cannot well miss. In slow Rivers, Muddy and Slimey bottomed in great Droughts expect little Success, but rather chase Pebbly, Sandy or Stony bottoms in, a running Stream, which much Cools and Refreshes the Fish in the hot Months.

Let your Eye be steady on what you are about, and your Hand ready to strike when it is convenient, which is with the rising of the Fish; or he finding his mistake will throw out the Hook again: But for a great Fish, I must hold it proper to let him turn his Head with the Bait, which will less strain your Tackle, for so he will strike himself, and then do it Moderately.

Upon Casting, do it with a little

little circling about your Head, by waving the Rod; or else the Fly may with too smart a Jerk be apt to snap off, cast the Fly behind a *Trout* at his rising, and so with a gentle Hand draw it over his Head, so that not scaring him, he will quickly take it if it be the right colour.

In Casting, observe to do it always before you, that it may fall on the Water, and no part of the Line dash, to scare away the Fish; and do it if you can without making any Circle in the Water: But if the Winds be high, some part must be in the Water to keep the Fly from being blown out. Take your standing so, if possible, that the Sun may be in your Face, and the Wind to your Back.

In still or Slow Water, cast your Fly almost a cross the River or Pond, and draw it towards you gently a little way, that

that you break not the Water, or put it in trouble, and let it bear with the Current if there be any, Fishing downwards and not upwards of the River. Thus having as I hope given plain Instructions in these matters, to be understood by easie Capacities, I proceed to describe Artificial Flies, for the proper Month of Angling with them.

*Artificial Flies proper in the Month of the Fishing Season, how to make them.*

*Febr.* **T**HE Palmer fly or Plain Hackle must have a rough black body, which may be done with black Spaniels hair, or the Whirl of an Estridge Feather, and the red Hackle of a Capon, all over.

The Prince Dun, this may be Dubbed of the Down of a Fox Cub, with Ash-coloured Silk, the

the Wings of a Stares Feather,  
this must be made little.

The little Red, Brown Dub,  
with the softest hair on the black  
spot of a Hogs Ear, the Wings of  
Mallards Feathers near white,  
wrap it on with red Silk.

March. The Green-tail may  
be made of the brown hair of a  
Spaniel, taken from the out-side  
of the Ear, and a little from the  
extream of the Tail.

Morish brown, may be Dub-  
bed with Black Sheeps Wool,  
Red Silk, and the Wings made of  
a Partridges Wing Feather.

Thorn-tree fly Dub of a very  
good black, and mix a little Isa-  
bella coloured Mohair; with it  
make a little body, and the Wings  
of a Mallards brightest Feathers.

The early bright brown, make  
of the Hair of a brown Spaniel,  
that of the flank of a Red Cow,  
and Wing it with the Grey Fea-  
ther of a Wild Duck.

April.

**April.** The Violet-fly, which takes excellently from the fifth to the tenth, make of Bears hair a light Dun, mixed with Violet stuff, Wing it with the greafie Feathers of a Mallard: The Horse-flesh-fly, which lasts all this Month, Dub with Pink Colours, Blew Mohair, and Red Tammy, let the Head be dark brown, and the Wings of a light colour.

The small bright Brown, is very well taken in a clear Day and Water, make it of Spaniels Fur with a light Grey Wing.

**May.** The Green Drake an excellent killer, Dub on a large Hook with Camels hair, bright Bears hair, soft Down combed from the Bristles of a Hog, mix yellow Camlet; let the Body be long, and Rib it with green Silk mixed with yellow; let the Whisks of his Tail be the long hair of Sables, his Wings, the light

light grey Feather, of a Mallard  
died yellow.

The Stone-fly Dub, with Dun  
Bears hair, mix it with a little  
brown and yellow Camlet, that  
she may be yellower on the Belly  
and Tail, than in any other  
part, to be the better liked by  
the Fish, who mostly Eyes the  
Belly of Baits; and to adorn it  
the more, place two or three  
hairs of the Beard of a Black  
Cat, on the top of the Hook, in  
the Whipping or Arming, and in  
warping on your Dubbing, sta-  
ring one from another something  
upright, Rib her with yellow  
Silk, make the Wings long and  
large, of the dark grey Feather  
of a Mallard, or other such like  
Feather.

The Grey Drake comes in  
when the Green one goes out,  
much of shape with it but in  
colour differs, and must be made  
of a paler and more bluish yel-  
low.

low and green, his Ribs quite down his Body must be of black, with black shining Wings very thin, and may be made of the grey feathers of a Mallard, the Down under Hogs Bristles, the black Hair of a Spaniel, and the Whisks of his Tail, of the Beard of a Black Cat.

*June.* The Ant-fly is dubbed with brown and red Camlet, the Wing of the Feathers of a light-grey Pidgeon.

The Purple-fly, with Purple Wool, mixed with light brown Bears-Hair, the Wings of a Stares Feather, Dub it with Purple Silk.

The brown Hackle make of the lightest brown Hair of a somewhat grown Colt, with a red Hackle or Cocks Neck-feather over it, warped with Hair colour or Ash coloured Silk.

*July.* Orange-fly, Dub this with Orange coloured Cruel or Wool

Wool, and the Feathers of a Black-Birds Wing.

The Wasp fly. Do this with brown Dubbing, or else of the Hair of a black Cats tail; ribit with yellow Silk, and make the Wings of the grey Feather of a Mallard's Wing.

The blew Dun must be made with the Down of a Water-Mouse, and the bleuish Dun found on an old Fox; mix them well together, and Dub with sad Ash coloured Silk, the Feathers of a Stares Quill, will furnish you with Wings.

August. The late Ant-fly may be Dubbed of the Hair of a Cow, that is of a blackish brown, and for the tagging of the Tails wrap in some red, and make the Wing of a dark Feather, this Fly takes admirably.

The Fern-fly must properly be Dubbed with the Wool taken from a Hares Neck, of the colour

lour of Fern, when dry, make the Wings of the darkish grey Feather of a Mallard.

The Hearth-fly, Dub of the Wool of an Aged Black Ewe, with some grey Hair to accommodate the Body and Head, Dub with black Silk, and take the light Feather of a Stare for the Wings,

September. The little blew dun, make of the Fur of a Water-Mouse, Dub it with sad Ash-coloured Silk, and Wing it with the Feather of a blew Pidgeon.

The late Badger, do this with Badgers Hair that is Black, whip with red Silk, and use a darkish grey Mallards Feather for the Wings.

The Camei brown fly, pull out for Dubbing, the Hair in the Lime of old Wall, whip it with red Silk, make the Wings of a Stares lightest Feather.

October, This monch is supplied

plied by the Flies of the former, for all being now upon their going away, any almost will do. And thus Reader keeping to my intended Brevity, I have singled you out the best killing Flies from a great many more, and by knowing how well to make these you may soon imitate all others by having a Natural Fly before you, and chusing your materials suitable to her colour, and shape her as you see the other, and then promise your self success in Angling with her as directed.

*Various, but very Curious Observations in Angling: divers ways of Angling, not Commonly known.*

**N**ote that sometimes all sorts of Fish take Baits at the ground, when but some sorts will take the Fly at the Top of the Water, and therefore to Angle for a Trout with a Worm,

chuse the running Line without any Float, only small Plummets in their proper places. This is successful at the Ground, either in Clear or Muddy Water.

As for the latter, use a Line a little more than half the Length of the Rod, and sometimes less than that length, and the lower-most Links must be at least three Hairs, and one at Top of four, whereof have a Water Noose or Loop to put it to another Link of four hairs, having also a Loop or Water Noose as its bottom; so proceed with Links of five or six hairs a piece, till you come to the top-most, make the lowest of Chesnut Colour, or Sorrel brown. Then to your Reed or Cane, have a Top neither too stiff nor too feble, but between both, the Cane about three yards and a half long, and the Top about a yard and a half, or near two yards, in one or two pieces

pieces, and five or six Inches of Whale-bone, smooth, round and pliant.

Observe to Lead your Line, as is consistent with the Water, in rough Streams more than in small gentle streams, and least of all in still Water; then carry the top or point of your Rod in a level with your Hand, and so you will by the point of your Rod, perceive the Bite at the Ground, then strike straight and gently upwards, and by a little slackening your Hand before, you will give the Fish time the better to take the Bait.

Some are of opinion, if you know that a *Trout* Bites, to strike at the first Biting, but this is only allowed in Clear Water for *Salmon-Smelts*, *Trout* and *Grayling*, and the Bait is the best Red-worms scoured, or a *Branding*, and *Gilt-tail* turned Head to Tail, and run

cross wise through the middle, under the Wings, and so you may do in Muddy Water with other Worms, as 2 Brandlings, two Meadow-worms, &c. A *Trout* will seize on the Bait when it drags on the ground, either in Clear or Muddy Water, but a large *Grayling* will rather rise a Foot or more at your Bait from the bottom, than descend.

If a large *Trout* you Angle for in Muddy Water, then it requires some art in Baiting your Hook, as suppose the Bait a Dew-worm, here you must thrust the Hook in towards the Tail, a little above the middle, and out again below the Head, then draw him above the Arm-ing of the Hook, or Whipping, so put the point into the Head of the Worm, till it is very near the place where the point of the Hook first came out, and so draw back the Worm or that

that part that was above the Shrank. This Hook should be indifferent large.

To Bait two Worms in Muddy Water for a *Trout*, &c. from eight to ten Inches: Take Meadow-worms, or Brandlings, or a Brandling and Gilt-tail, and run the point of the Hook in at the Head down the Body, till it pass the knot, or come to the middle of the Worm; then strip it above the Arming or Whipping, not bruising it in any manner with your Fingers, so put on the other, by running the Hook in the same manner, and let the Head of it just cover the point of the Hook, then slip the first down, till the knots or middle of both Worms meet together; and thus you may do by any other Worms; for other Fish as by foregoing directions you find they take them.

*Directions for Angling with the running Line in Clear Water.*

PUT a Gilt-tail and small Brandling on your Hook, as before directed, well scoured, and here your Hook must be much smaller than in Muddy Water, two or three of the lowermost Links of your Line of a single Hair, so rise from two, to three, or four, of a grey or dusky White, the Line about two yards shorter than the Rod, Leaded with a small black Plummet.

Angle with this in the stream always up it, in a River with a light Hand, still casting out the Worm before you; let the Rod be as the former: And thus you may Angle for Salmon-Smelts, Trout or Grayling, to whose proper Baits I refer you in my Treatise of Baits in this Book.

D.

*Directions for the Top Water Angling with a Worm*

**Y**Our Line in this case must be longer than your Rod, without any Plummets or Float, drawing your Bait down and up the stream, in a clear day, with a gentle Hand, that it may glide as if it were swimming, and your Bait here must be a Gilt-tail, or Brandling, keep it from the Shoar, and free from Intanglements of Weeds, Wood, Rushes, or other Incumbrances that hinder sport.

*Farther Directions for Float-Angling.*

**H**ere your Line must be two or three foot longer than your Rod in Rivers, but in Ponds and Pits something shorter, Angling in Clear Water

E 5 for

for *Salmon Smelts, Trout or Grayling*, you must put but one Hair next the Hook, but in Muddy Water, and for other Fish two or three, observing the running Line and Rod for the *Tench*, and proportion this to it, Lead it moderately, but so that it may keep the Line straight and even, but for *Tench, Carp, Barbel or Chub*, your Rod and Line must have an additional strength in the thickness of the one, and the number of Hairs in the other; and your Float manageable in the Water, proportioned according to the swiftness or slowness of the Water, but with one Worm, the Water being very Clear; and observe for some sort of Fish, as *Flounders, Salmon Smelts, Bream and Gudgeon*, your Bait must drag on the Ground, but for other sorts, as *Tench, Roach, Bleak, Pike, Ruff, and Carp*, at mid-

mid-water ; for *Grayling* and *Pearch*, at six or nine Inches from the bottom. The *Chub* is often taken at Bottom, Mid-water and Top.

You may use the various sorts of Baits, Angling with a *Float*, but *Ground Baits* are most frequently used, and with success.

*Directions for Drabbling.*

BY this, *Barbels* of large size are taken ; to do it compleatly, observe these Rules.

Have a strong Line of six yards, which before you fasten it to your Rod, must be put through a piece of Lead, that if the Fish bite, it may slip to and fro, and that the Water may something move it on the ground. Bait it with a pretty large *Lobworm* well scoured, and so by its motion, the *Barbel* will be inticed into the danger

E 6 without

without suspicion. The best Places are in running Water near Piles, or under wooden Bridges, supported with Oaks floated and slimy.

*Angling with the Ledger-Bait.*

**T**HIS is used for variety of Exercise, to give rest to the Anglers, and so differs from others that are called walking Baits, and this is, when the Bait continues to rest in one fixed and certain place.

Here you must take off your Float, but let the Lead remain, and within half a yard of the top of the Line, wrap a thin plate of Lead, an Inch and half long, and pretty broad, *viz.* about an Inch, so fasten your Line to your Rod, cast in your Bait either into a still flow draught, or gentle Stream, and when it is at the bottom, you may stick your Rod in the Bank

of

of the River, or hold it in your hand at discretion, and by the bending of the Rod, or motion of the Lead at top, you will perceive when the Fish Bites, give her some time, and strike contrary to where her head lyes. The *Chub* and *Eel* are successfully taken this way.

*To lay Night Hooks.*

TO do this effectually, procure a small Cord, which may be about sixteen yards long, and to this at equal distances, tye five or six fine twisted Flax or Silk Lines, about eighteen Inches each, of the thicknes of your Trowling Line, fasten them so that they may be easily removed, and put on again, whip to the ends of each of them a pretty strong hook, Bait with a Loach, Minnow or Bull-head, the Fins and Gills cut off; or these being wanting,

wanting, the Seven Eyes, Eel brood, small Roach, Gudgeon the Pith of an Ox or Cows Back-Bone, &c. will serve for the Fish, put the point of the Hook in at the Tail, and out at the Mouth, so that the Fishes Head may have a resting in the Hooks bent, and that the point may not be discovered, cover it with a Worm, and casting the Cord by a weight, over the River, Stream or Pond, fasten both ends to stakes on either side, and be there early in the Morning, and expect *Chub*, large *Eels*, *Trout* or *Pike*, but for a *Pike*, keep the Bait with a Float about a foot or something more from the bottom.

For this to gather the Fish, you may Bait the Ground with Blood and Grains, or Sweet made up in Sweet Earth, taken from under the Green Sourd, or Pastes, &c.

Choice Receipts, or Rare Secrets,  
never before made Publick.

**T**AKE Oyl of Amber, Rosemary and Myrrh, an equal quantity, infuse in them any Worms, or mingle Paste with them, and the Fish if near, will hasten to the Bait so dipped, and then not have power to go away, till she either Nibbles off the Bait, or is Taken.

Oyl of Water Lillies, and the Juice of Mulberries, is excellent to make up Paste with, especially with a few drops of Oyl of Penny-Royal in it, and the Fat of a Hedg-hog or Urchin.

Ground-bait for *Carp* with unpickled Samphire bruised, and made into Balls, with Walnut-Oyl. This likewise allures *Tench* and *Bream*.

Over-night, mix Bean Flower with a little Honey, wet it with Rectified Spirits of Wine, and

and a little Oyl of Turpentine, make it up into little Pellets, and such Fish as Nibble it, when thrown in, will be stu-  
pified, so that in the Morning coming to themselves a little, they will Bite very eagerly, as being after their drunken Fit exceeding hungry. This like-  
wise is a sure detainer of them all night in Summer, so that they will not wander from the place. *Nux Vomica* scraped into Paste, makes them Drunk, so that if the Water be shallow, you may go in and take them, when they rise and turn up their Bellies as if expiring, though in a little time they will come to themselves again, if the Water be deep you may use a Landing Net.

The Fat of Barnacles or Sea-  
Gulls is extreamly coveted by  
Fish, if mixed with the Juice  
of Eringoes, or Sea Holly,  
The

The Craw of a Turtle Dove well scoured, is taken very eagerly by the *Pike*.

The Fat of a Water Rat, takes *Pearch*, if the Bait be rubbed with it, as that of a Mole does the *Pike*.

*Some particular Observations on Gudgeon Angling.*

THE *Gudgeon* though not over large, is approved among other Fish as a Dainty, being very wholesom Food. This Fish Spawns twice or thrice in the Year, he delights in sharp streams, with Gravelly or Sandy-bottoms, and shews the young Angler extraordinary good sport, who not being well skilled in chusing, or not well knowing how to come by other Baits, may take him with a small Red-worm on the ground, or very near it, and rarely

rarely by reason of the toughness of his Mouth is he lost when struck. In the heat of Summer they make to the Shallows in Rivers, but when the Weeds in *Autumn*, grow of a bad taste, or rot, and Cold Weather comes on, then they get together in Deep places; and here it is propereſt to Fish for them at the ground, or a little above it, if you Fish with a Cork or Float; but it may be done with a running Line on the ground, without a Float: As for particular Baits, I have already discoursed of them, and among others those relating to the *Gudgeon*.

*A special Winter Bait to get, and preserve.*

**W**hen Plowing begins in *Autumn*, before any Frosts come that are forcible, to

to make entrance into the Earth ; observe where the Ploughs are going, if there be store of Crows lighted on the Ground, especially in that which is Heathy, Sandy, or Greenseard, follow, and you will find a White Worm, bigger than a Gentle, having a red Head, which is held to be bred of the Spawn or Egg of a Beetle, left in those holes she digs in the Ground under Horse or Cow-dung, which in *March* or *April*, turns to a Beetle again : You may put about two Quarts of these, into half a Bushel of the same Mould, when you gather them, put them in a Tub or other Vessel, where the Frost or Wind may not come to kill them ; and by this means, when most other Baits are out, you may be provided all the Seasonable times in Winter, and early in Spring.

They

They take in those Seasons,  
*Bream, Carp, Roach, Dace and Chub.*

Gentles may be kept in Winter, in Bran, Moss and Scouring Earth, lightly over some putrefaction, in which at the first laying them in the Ground, where the Frost cannot come at them, you perceive they begin to live.

*Unseasonable times to Angle in.*

**H**aving spoke much of proper times to accommodate the Angler, I shall now speak somewhat more of unseasonable ones, that those who are ignorant in this Art, as to the Niceties of it, may not lose their labour.

The two extremes of Weather are not proper, viz. (1.) When great droughts have parched the Earth, so that

that the Rivers carry but low Currents, when the Weather is Excessive hot, in the Heat of the day, unless Clouds cover all, and Winds gently breath. (2.) In Frosty or Snowy Weather, or unhealthy Weather, for two reasons, viz. because you will little damage the Fish, but greatly injure your self.

In the Morning, either in the Spring or advancing of the season, if a Hoar Frost happen, the Fish will be backward in their biting that day, and little sport can be expected, for they will not freely rise, except in the Evening, and soon after they have spawned they will not bite to the purpose, till with Gras and Weeds they have well purged and scoured themselves, so that they may by that means recover their Strength and Appetite.

It is not proper to Fish when the

the North or East Winds be very sharp.

In Brooks that are small and clear, where the Water is kept up by Mills or Dams, it is not good Angling, for there especially the Trout keeps her hole and others bite faintly.

*Some other useful Observations and  
directions.*

I. **I**F you are doubtful what Bait will be taken, look in the first Fishes Stomach, and such Flies, Worms, &c. as you find there, that kind at that times delights in.

Be sure always to keep your shadow off the Water, and therefore let the Sun be in your Face, or on one side of you when you Angle, keeping out of sight, and making no noise; and when you are bent for Trout, you need make but three or four Essays with

with the ground Bait or Fly, for if it comes not then to Bite or offer, either there is not any there, or they keep close in their holes.

If you Fish for Carp, cut no Weeds in the River, nor on the sides, to make you a convenient standing, for then they will perceive they are laid wait for, and forsake that Haunt, not returning in a considerable time.

*A Curious Paste with Oyls to take Fish.*

TAKE the flower of Lupins three Ounces, the Fat of a Rabbits Kidney an Ounce, the Juice of Horse Rhadish a quarter of an Ounce, Oyl of Turpentine three Drams, mix these together with stiff hand, and make them up into a Paste, with a little Rabits Wool felted in with it to strengthen it on the Hook,

and it will take to Admiration *Trout*, *Tench*, *Chub* and *Roach*, and is an excellent Ground Bait for most sort of River or Pond Fish, and proportionable to direction, mix a greater quantity, adding a little Honey.

And thus have I given you in a small Book, the whole Art of Angling, for by way of direction, there needs no more; all that remains now, is to put it in practice, without which, whatever can be said on this Subject, signifies little.

*To take the Smelt with an Angle.*

THIS Fish Generally lies at the Tails of Ships, or in Brooks, you Fish for him at half Water, with a Gentle, and the first *Smelt* that you Catch, cut him into small pieces, about the bigness of a Gentle, and Bait your Hook with them, and you will find Sport to Admiration. To

*To Feed Fish in Ponds.*

**C**A S T in the Bowels and Entrails of great Fish, Crackt Wall-nuts, fresh Cheese, Lumps of White Bread, Fruits Chopt small, all sorts of Salt Fish, and such other like Victuals, sometimes fresh Leaves of Parsley, Chipers of Bread or other Crusts, Clotted Blood of Beasts, or the young Brood of Wasps cast in the Pond.

A fresh Carp Salted six Hours, and then Fry'd in Oyl, and be-sprinkled with Vinegar, in which Spices have Boyl'd, is the wholesomest Fish that is: But be sure Drink a Glass of Claret after it, but let Sick Persons abstain from both.

Salmon and Trout well Sodden in Water and Vinegar, and eat with Sower Sauce, may be eaten

of Hot Livers and burning Agues, but not too often

*Barbels* broil'd on a Gridiron or Roasted, in Vinegar, are very wholesome, if any Man drink the Wine in which one hath been Strangled to Death, he shall ever after despise all manner of Wine.

River *Sturgeon* Sodden in Water and Vinegar, and eaten with *Fennel* doth Cool the Blood.

River *Lampreys* choak'd with *Nutmegs* and *Cloves*, and fry'd with Bread and Oyl and Spices, is a good dish.

Female *Tenches* baked with it, *Garlick*, or boil'd with *Onions*, dear *Oyl* and *Raisins*, may be eaten to the of Youth and Cholerick men. Col

*Pikes* boil'd with Water, *Oyl* dive and sweet *Herbs*, will firmly invi get Nourish.

*Eels* Roasted, with *Oyl* and at the *Coriander* seeds, partly abates rest, *Flegm* in the *Stomach*. one

*Solu*

Soles fri'd with Butter, and eaten with Sauce made of Wine, the Juice of Orange, and Grated Bread, is a dainty Dish, easy of digestion, and the best of Fish.

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Secrets and Curiosities never before made Publick.

To draw Fish into the Net.

WHEN you set your Net, put some live Fish into it, or for want, a piece of some dead one, and it will draw others to it; or if you put some Flesh Colour'd Flowers into the Net of divers sorts, the Smell or Sight invites them to it; or if you can get a Fish in the same River and at the same place, it will draw the rest, for Fish are acquainted with one another: A Bone of Salt

G 2 Pork

Pork without Flesh attracts them.

The Dregs of Hempseed is a great Attractor of Fish, but of all other Past for Nets or Ground. Bait on any Occasion, Take a Young Hare, let it begin to smell strong, then Roast it with a gentle Fire, and baste it well with Honey; when its half Roasted, put in the Dripping-Pan Sipets of White Bread, and let it drop thereon till the Bread is well soaked, then take it out of the Pan and put in more, and so do till the Liquor is dry'd up. If you tye a piece of this Bread with a little of the Flesh upon any part of the Nets inside, it will draw the Fish greatly.

Take a Dace, Roach or Gudgeon run a small Wire along within the Skin along the Backside of the Ribs, then it coming out at the Gills, fasten a Hook to it, and stake it down, and let the Wire be fasten'd to a Line as far as the

Her

Heron can wade ; the Fish will Swim and Live some time, then leave it when he swallows it, and is catch'd : and thus the other Fish Devourers are Catch'd in deeper Places.

*A Pleasant way to take Pike.*

Take what quantity of blown Bladders you please, and at the mouth of it tye a Line longer or shorter, as the Water is in depth, Bait your Hooks Artificially, and put them into the Water, and as the Wind blows them gently, the *Pike* will strike himself, and make Pleasant Diversion by Flound'ing about, when spent, take him out ; the same may be done by tying your Line at the Legs of Ducks or Geese.

*To take Frogs to Fish with.*

In the Night take a Torch and

G 3 set

set some dry Straw on Fire, and they'll make to it and come about you, in the Water stand still and be silent, and they'll not forsake the Light, so that you may take small or great.

*To take Carp.*

Take a Door or Board near as long as broad, then Floor it over two Inches or thereabouts, with stiff, Clay that it may not wash off, then stick it full of Beans, about 4 inches distant, gently put in, that they may easily bite them off, then put the end of the board sloping downwards into the Water, and fasten a Cord that must be sure at the middle or end of the board to some stump of a Tree; next Morning if the Carp have eaten your Beans, then put more and then more, take care the bottom of the Water where you put the Door be clean

clean and smooth, after severall Exitings taking away the <sup>the</sup> Door, and cast in two or three handfuls of the aforesaid Beans, but if the Ground be Muddy, Weedy or Rooty, let the Door be Rebaited, and return'd where it was, and then you may let fall your Hook.

*The way to order the Beans.*

Take half a **Bushel**, and let them lye eight Hours in warm Water, then boil them in a large Earthen Pot in four Ounces of Honey, and four Grains of Musk, let them boil a quarter of an Hour, and preserve them to Bait the Door; now the Night before you Fish, put some of your Beans aforesaid into some River-water to boil, when they begin to bubble, put the quantity of two small Beans of *Aloes Socatrina* into the Pot, into a handful of

G 4 Beans,

Beans, and let it boyl a little; when cold, Bait the Door with them, and it will set them a scowring, and make them so hungry that they'll bite at any thing; the next Morning Bait your Hooks with the biggest Beans, and let the point of your Hook just pierce the skin of them, let not your Beans be bitter ones, let your Hook have a Foot of Line to trail on the Water, and your Line made of Green Silk, and you'll have great Sport.

*To Catch Fish.*

Take Nettles, Cinquefoin, and chop small, then mix some Juice of Housleek with it, rub your Hands therewith, and throw it into the Water, and keep your Hands in the Water, and the Fish will come to them that you may take them, or take Heart-Wort and Lime, mingle them together,

gether, and throw it into a standing Water, and it will Fox them that you may take them with your Hands.

*To Kill Otters, great Destroyers of Fish*

Lay near his Haunt an *Eel* slit on the back, with some few Crumbs of Arsnick put into the slit, then Sow it up again ; place the *Eel* from the Navel upward out of the Water, and he'll eat it so far, and seldom farther, and it Kills him.

*To take a Heron, a Coot, Cormorant, Sea-Pye and Osprey.*

Take a *Roach* or *Gudgeon*, run a small Wire along within the Skin, on the backside the *Rib*, then it coming out at the Gills, fasten a Hook to it, and stake it down, and let the Wire be fast-

G 5      nre

ned to a Line as far as the Heron can wade ; the Fish will Swim and Live some time, then leave it, and he'll swallow it ; and thus the other Fish Devourers are catch'd in deeper Places. Lime a Stick, and put a Fish at the end of it, and lay it on some Water-Leaf or Rushes, and it catches them when they take it.

*To take a Moor-hen.*

Lay Lime-twigs, or shoot them and for Cormorants, destroy their, Nests or shoot them. Take a King-Fisher, observe his Haunts, and Lime the twigs he usually sits on.

*To Kill Water-Rats.*

Pin square boards against the Holes where they haunt, which Board must have a great hole in the middle, and just against their coming

coming in or going out fastned to the Banks, then make a Latch, and set on the outside of the Board, tiled like a Fox Latch on the lower part of the Hole as before mentioned, then put 3 or 4 pricks of Wire, to hold any thing that comes out or in.

*To take a Pike as he lyes Sleeping and Sunning in fair Weather with a Loop or Net.*

March and August is the best time. Take a long Pole or Rod that is light and straight, on the small end fasten a running Loop of twisted Horse-hair, and Silk, of a large compass, which gently draw on him, and when it is 5 or 6 Inches over his Gills, hoist him up, if it is a small Pike draw it not so far on, make no noise in Walking nor Speaking; if he lyes so that you cannot conveniently noose him, touch his Tail with the Rod, and he'll turn as you please; also with a hand-

G 6 Net,

Net, putting it gently under Water, guide it just under him, and lift it softly, till you just touch him, and then do it as quick as you can.

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*To make and order Fish-Ponds.*

**M**oorish Ground, and such as is full of Springs is best, the first Breeds them well, the last prevents their being stolen; next let your Pond be so ordered, that it may receive the Rain-Water that falls from the Hills, for that mightily refreshes them; and if your Pond can receive the Piss of Horses and other Cattle, they'll produce the largest and fattest Fish. Let your Ponds Head be at the lowest part of the Ground, and let the Flood-gate have a quick and swift fall, that

when you sue or empty it, you may not be too long about it: In Building your Pond, the best way is to drive a Row of Stakes of 6 or 7 Foot long, and 6 or 7 Inches square, and at 4 Foot distance; Elm is better than Oak, drive them in the length of the Pond Head, and ram the first Row four Foot and a half deep, and then they'll be Strong. Next dig your Pond, and throw the Earth among the Stakes and Piles; when they are cover'd well, drive another Row over them, and ram the Earth in the void places, that it lie close and keep the Water in the better; and thus you must continue Stake on Stake, and ramming the Earth till the Head be as high as you would have it.

Let the inside of the Dam be smooth, that no Current may have power over it; let your Pond carry 6 Foot Water, and be 8 Foot

Foot deep, to receive the Rains that fall into it; Floar the bottom with large Turfs of Flot-Grass close joyn'd and staked down; stake also on the Pond-side several Faggots of light Wood but not Oak, for that's bitter and offensive; these Faggots shelter the Fish, and after they cast their Spawn, preserve from Vermin, and preserve the Young Fish from Devourers; let them also have some retireing places by Roots of Trees, hollow Banks, both to cherish them in Cold and Heat, and preserve from Danger. *Carp*, *Tench* and *Bream* store by themselves, *Pearch* and *Pike* by themselves, and put into either *Minows* and *Dace*, but *Roach* are injurious to all Ponds and great breeders. Ponds with, strong Sandy bottoms that lye warm and out of the Wind, with Nut Trees and Willows also Shelter'd, are best for *Carp* to Breed

breed in, and New made Ponds Breed better than Old that are full of Weeds and Mud, therefore every 3 Years cleanse them from the Mud Filth. To make a Breeding Pond or Store Pond, sew it, put in all Spawners or all Millers, Observe, That Store Ponds afford the largest and fattest *Carp*. A Breeding Pond, put in 3 Spawners to one Miller. Draw your Pond about *Alhollan-tide*, and keep of Females a sufficient Number for Breeding. Indeed you ought not to Kill any of them, they'l Live and Breed 50 or 60 Years; but you may Kill all the Males that are above 3 Years Old, and put the rest that are 3 Year, 2 or one Year Old into the Pond again, as many of them as the Pond will maintain, this do once every Year.

Mr. Worlidge says, that dead heavy and more gross Waters are most proper for *Carp*, *Tench*, *Bream*,

*Bream*, &c. but especially *Carp*, and those Ponds that are nearest the Sea, and whose Water is a little brackish, yield the best and fattest *Carp*; and that if you cast into your Fish Pond through which there is but little Current, sometime a Load of the refuse Salt Earth, that as the Saltiness is cast out and of no value, it improves them as Salt does Pigeons; and that *Trout* Ponds being made at the Head of a Chalkey Spring, that they may Feed at the very *Atoms* of Chalk that issueth out of the Rocks with the Water, are a great improvement to these Fish: Some he says feed them with Flesh, &c. but its not so good as their Natural Food.

Feed your *Pike*, *Carp* and other Fish with Bread, Grains, Chippings of Bread, Entrails of Chickens.

If you would have *Carp* Large in *April*, the Water then growing low,

low, cleanse the sides where the Water is fallen away with a Rake ; and then sow Hay-Seed round about, and rub it in well, and about September the Grass will grow, and the Water over-flow it, and they Feeding thereon speedily become Fat *Carp* of a Delicious Taste.

*Observation.* Female *Carp* are 8 or 9 Years er'e they Breed much, therefore its requisite you should get some of that Age, to have speedy Advantage by them, you ought to have 2 or 3, least one should dye, the Male ought to be 4 Year Old ; put in to every Female 14 Males. A Pond of half an Acre will Feed Yearly 400 *Carp*. To make them very Fat and large, not only Hay-Seed, &c. as is already said, but if you take them out of the Pond, and put them into Pits or Puddles in Pastures or deep Ditches in Meadows, they speedily grow

grow very large: It's said *Carp* never Feeds but in Summer Sea-  
son, and that a Deep Pond of 12  
Foot Square that lyes warm, will  
yield 600 *Carp*.

Another says, That Putrify'd  
and Stinking Water injures Fish  
the worst of any thing, therefore  
cleanse your Ponds every three  
Years at least, of Woods, Sedges  
and Filth. In Clay Countreys,  
Ponds are subject to Mud, there-  
fore once in 7 Years drain them  
in the beginning of the Spring;  
put the Fish you preserve into  
smaller Pits or Stews, the other  
use as you please; then causing  
Men to tread the Mud with their  
Feet, the *Eels* will rise out, then  
take them, and after let the Men  
throw out the Mud and fill it,  
which is good Compost for Land;  
then sod the bottom of the Pond,  
and the sides with Green Sods,  
and fix them hard in with Stakes of  
Sallow, and these sides will nou-  
rish the Fish exceedingly. This

This done, if there is no Fresh Spring in the Pond, then lade the Water back again into it, then drawing your Sluces, take out your Store of Fish, and put them again into your Pond, and observe that there be two parts Spawners, and a third Millers. These Pits and small Stews are best for Feeding, therefore always keep them with Fresh Water, and placed so one by another, that you may empty them when you please; once in three Months put fresh Sods on the Banks and Bottoms, of the Fullest Grass: You shall put into them Store of *Roach*, *Dace*, *Mi-  
now*, *Loach*, and *Millers-Thumb*, for the bigger Fish to feed thereon also *Garbage*, and the Blood of Sheep, Calves, Hogs and the like, will Fat Fish speedily; for as Fish in Rivers have ever something brought them to Feed on, so those imprison'd in Ponds, and

and want that help, must be reliev'd or perish: Feed them also with Grains, Curds, Chippings of Bread, and any sort of Grain thrown into the Ponds Morning and Evening,

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*How to Fish in Hackney River, with the Names of the best Stands, and manner of making the best Tackling to Fish there.*

*To make the Tackle.*

**P**rovide an Angle Rod of four Yards, and Hooks of all Sizes, and get some strong, round, White or Grey Horse-hair, Silk to whip your Hooks, and Wax to wax the Silk; then get some Swans and Goose Quill Floats; but for *Barbel* Lines you may buy

buy cheaper of Hair or Silk then you can make them ; being so provided, make first a Line for *Chub*, putting 8 Hairs in the first Link next the Rod, and leave out a Hair every Link, putting 4 or 5 Hairs at the bottom, to which ~~whip~~ a Hook of proportionable bigness ; put on one of the largest Floats you have, and Lead sufficient to Cock it.

But for *Dace* or *Roach*, exceed no more than a Hair or two next the Hook, for the finer you Fish the better, never forgetting your Landing-Hook or Net. These Lines ought to be a Yard shorter than your Rods, for the better striking, in a swift Stream the Float must be larger, a middling size for slow Streams, and the Duck-Quill Float which is the smallest, for still Waters ; you must put your Shot 8 Inches from the Hook ; having a sufficient quantity of Tackling, get 2 or 3 Penny

Penny-worth of Ground-Bait and Paste, and go to *Causus* or *Marys-Hole* to Fish, first Plummimg the Ground, then throw in your Ground-bait made up in little Balls, putting a Pebble Stone in the middle to sink it; having thrown in 5 or 6 Balls, put on your Hook a little piece of Paste made up round, and Fish there, and at the first Bob of your Float strike gently, and you need not fear Sport. In the second Meadow on the Left Hand beyond the Ferry, under the hollow Tree, in the midst of the Meadow is an Excellent Stand. Having filled your Basket with *Roach* or *Dace*, or the Wind being high that you cannot well Angle for them, then Fish for *Chub*, which in *Hackney* are very large, therefore provide a Line as before directed; keep from the side of the River, till you can but just see your Float, Bait your Hook with a Pellet, and

and throw in a Ball of your Ground-bait of the bigness of a Wallnut, broke between your Fingers, let your Hook follow it, and you may catch one in 8 or 10 flings, or there is none there, trying two or three likely places, ten to one but you catch a *Chub*; but if you should fall in *Chub* Fishing, then Drabble for *Barbel*, which to do, you must have strong Line 6 Yards long, of Hair and Silk, having a Bullet on it to move up and down, and being Baited with a Lob-worm, in all likelihood you'll catch a *Barbel*. To make the Ground-bait, cut a twopenny-Loaf into Slices, soak it in a Platter of fair Water a quarter of an Hour, pour the Water from it, and with Bran make the Bread into a stiff Paste, and then into Balls for your use. To make Paste out of the Crust of a White Roll two days old, hold it in your hands being clean,

two.

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two Minutes in fair Water, then Working it in your Hands, it will become a stiff Paste. To draw to a Conclusion, if you would set out Fisherman like, then fail not to have with you a good Coat for all Weathers, an Apron to put Ground-bait, Paste, and Stones in, a Basket to put Fish in, a neat Rod of four Foot in several pieces one in another, two or three Lines of all sorts, spare Hooks, Links, Floats, Silk, Wax, Plummetts, Caps, and a Landing Net, &c. and if you have a Boy to go with you, a Good Neats Tongue and a Bottle of Canary should not be wanting, to the Enjoyment of which I leave you.

FINIS

MVSEVM  
BRITAN  
NICVM

